

Monday

Brighton... Pearce Wright previews the most popular event in the scientific calendar...

Rock Modern Times dons crepe-soled shoes to venture into the parts that Rock 'n' Roll still reaches.

Man... Spectrum on the sometimes horrifying way in which man exploits the monkey.



...and Superman Is America's foreign policy designed mainly to ensure the reelection of President Reagan?

Downhill... Pat Healy examines in a two-part series the impact of cuts in health service spending.

...Racer European Cup athletics at Crystal Palace.

New wave of rioting in Pakistan

Anti-martial-law protestors tore up 500 yards of railway lines in Pakistan's Sindh province as part of the civil disobedience campaign launched on Sunday.

Kidnap hunt

Police officers in Co Donegal were hunting a kidnap gang as fears grew for the safety of an informer's wife being held by the Irish National Liberation Army.

Rebel realism

Leaders of US-backed insurgents in Nicaragua admit they cannot win a military victory in Costa Rica.

US recovery

The American economy is recovering faster than expected, according to figures which show that between April and June gross national product expanded at a rate of 9.2 per cent.

Tripoli blast

Thirty people were injured when a car bomb exploded near a hospital in Tripoli, Lebanon, the second blast there in less than a month.

Looters held

About 120 people were arrested for looting in Houston and Galveston after Hurricane Alicia struck southern Texas.

Chess champion

Jonathan Mestel, the Cambridge University player, won the Griesonian Grant British chess championships at Southport, repeating his triumph of 1976.

Boycott rebuked

Geoffrey Boycott has been reprimanded by Yorkshire for slow scoring against Gloucestershire at Cheltenham last Saturday.

Kinnock likely to block Benn's return to power

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Attempts by the far left to restore Mr Wedgwood Benn to his power base inside the Labour Party are expected to be frustrated by Mr Neil Kinnock after his likely election as leader in October.

The national executive committee (NEC) elections, at the party conference are almost certain to result in gains for the outside or 'serious' left, but not enough to give them overall control.

Mr Eric Clarke, of the National Union of Ironworkers, Mr Douglas Hoyle, MP, of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, and Mr Charles Kelly (Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians).

Blow restores blind man's sight



A woman has restored her blind husband's sight by hitting him on the head with a plastic bucket. Mr Willis with Jason, who was three weeks' old when his father went blind.

Fight to stop £400,000 pay-off

By Jonathan Clare

Furious shareholders in John Brown, the troubled engineering company, will fight to stop a possible £400,000 'golden handshake' to Sir John Mayhew-Saunders, the former chairman.

First French casualty killed by mine explosion in Chad

By Leslie Plummer

The French forces in Chad have suffered their first casualty. The Times has learnt. The death, which occurred this week near Abéché, where French forces have one of their forward positions north-east of the capital, Ndjamena, happened when a soldier stepped on a mine.

air attacks, armoured vehicles are on the way from France and other parts of Africa, along with light artillery. The 1st Foreign Legion Cavalry Regiment unit just dispatched from Arles consists of 16 to 30 armoured vehicles, carrying 90mm guns and intended to improve probing operations.

Russians to develop new mobile missile

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Soviet Union is planning to develop a mobile intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) as a way of protecting the backbone of its nuclear forces from new missile systems being developed by the US, according to a senior American official.

Tee-shirt clue to sex attack

Police are searching for a tee-shirt which could provide vital evidence in their hunt for three 'callous and brutal' men who kidnapped and sexually assaulted a boy aged six in Brighton.

Security guard shot dead in Tube raid

By Michael Horsnell

A security guard was shot dead outside Belsize Park Underground station, north-west London, yesterday after collecting £8,964 from the booking office.

he was dead on arrival at the Royal Free Hospital. Mr Clarke, who was married, was accompanied by a driver in the collection. The shooting occurred at about 12.45 pm and sent people diving for cover.

Embassy bomb attempt

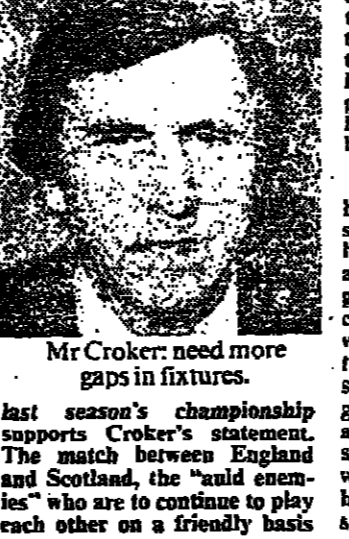
A man forced his way past police guards into the British Embassy here yesterday in a car containing a home-made bomb. Richard Owen writes from Moscow.

Continued on back page, col 5

Home international football's finale

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The British home football championship, which began in 1883-84 and is the oldest international competition in the world, is to be discontinued at the end of the 1983-84 season.



Mr Croker: need more gaps in fixtures.

every year, drew 84,000 spectators to Wembley, equivalent to the sum of the attendances at the other five ties. The next highest total, 24,000 for England against Wales, was the lowest gate in Wembley's history.

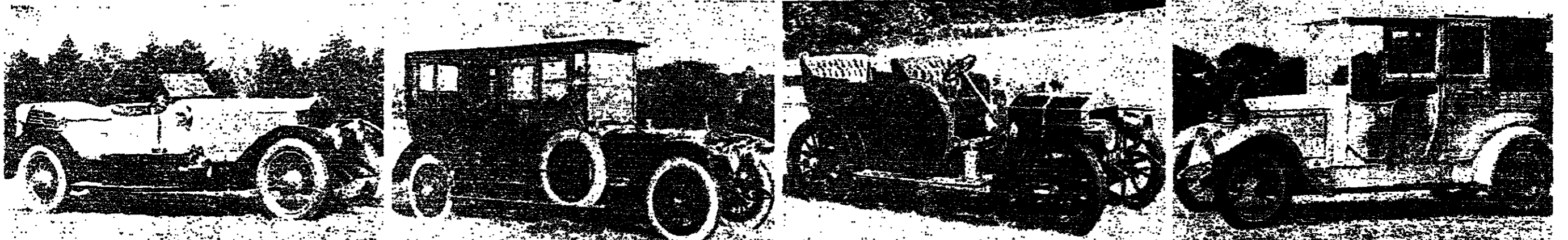
Rampton man released after 11 years

A man who has spent 11 years at Rampton mental hospital has been released after inaccuracies were found in his medical records.

India's unique holiday concept. The Palace-on-Wheels. Brings back to life the vintage splendours of the age of Maharajas. Viceroy and Governors-General we thought had gone forever. DON'T MISS THIS TRAIN AGAIN!

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Letters. Rows include Overseas, Sports, Arts, Services, Business, TV & Radio, Theatre, Crossword, Diary, Events.

A rare chance to buy a 1905 Rolls-Royce for £100,000



The finest collection of Rolls-Royce ever to be offered for sale will be auctioned in October through Christie's, South Kensington, in association with Lord Montagu of Beaulieu (Christopher Warman writes). Three of the cars are expected to fetch at least £100,000.

The collection belongs to Mr Stanley Sears, who lives in Portugal. He began collecting cars, especially Rolls-Royces, in the 1930s, long before most collections were formed. His cars are likely to set price records for Rolls-Royces and the sale will probably reach up to

£500,000; however, because the seven vehicles are rare and in such perfect condition, Christie's is reluctant to give details. The star of the collection, which is to be sold at the Earls Court Motorfair on October 22, is a 1914 Silver Ghost Alpine Eagle touring by Portholme (ex-

reme left). It is in pristine condition, although its engine has done more than 300,000 miles. The car was returned by its owner to Rolls-Royce in the 1930s, but when war broke its body was replaced with that of a lorry to transport Spitfire en-

gines. After the war its original body was restored and was acquired by Mr Sears in 1951. It should fetch more than £100,000. Mr Sears was fired with enthusiasm for collecting after watching the London to Brighton run, although these cars, which include a 1905 model, were too

young to qualify. The oldest car is a rare 1905 Light Twenty TT Replica Tourer of 65-70 mph, which could also command a price in six figures. The third car which could fetch £100,000 is a 1912 Silver Ghost limousine by the royal

coachbuilders Hooper (first from left), which was purchased for the collection in 1945. Less valuable financially, but fascinating historically, is the 1923 20-horsepower laundrette (right), the body built in 1910 by Hamshaw, of Leicester, for Lord Londsdale.

Consul says Irish visit did not represent the US Government

The newly appointed United States consul in Belfast warned people yesterday against believing that the recent Congressmen and Irish National Caucus delegation which visited the province represented the United States Government. He said that Congressmen Richard Ottinger and Robert Borski were two out of 435 members of Congress and the Irish National Caucus campaign to stop Short Brothers being awarded a £20m US Air Force contract would not have a "big influence". Mr Sam Bartlett, who has been in the province for two weeks, said Official Unionist

Party allegations that Short had already lost the contract were probably untrue because the bids were just coming in. "Once the bids are in decision-making starts and this will go on until some time near the end of the year."

People, Mr Bartlett said should not be under the mistaken impression that this week's visitors spoke for the US Government and he did not believe there had been any official government funding of their journey. He said President Reagan had explained the US government's position in a statement

on St Patrick's Day in which he said he would discourage fundraising by violent groups, crack down on gun-running, and promote industrial investment in Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic.

Mr Bartlett said Congressman Mario Biaggi's ad hoc committee on Irish affairs was an informal grouping and that the Friends of Ireland Group, which included Senator Edward Kennedy and Speaker Tip O'Neill, paralleled the US Government's attitude toward Northern Ireland more frequently than the views of the other committee.

Fears grow for informer's wife

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A police hunt was still under way in Co Donegal last night for several members of a kidnap gang as fears grew for the safety of an informer's wife being held by the Irish National Liberation Army. (Richard Ford writes from Belfast.)

Two men detained by the police after the rescue on Thursday of the stepfather and half-sister of the INLA informer Henry Kirkpatrick, aged 25, are being questioned by detectives at Letterkenny. Both men had addresses in Co Donegal; one is Sean O'Hara, whose brother, Patsy, died on hunger strike in the Maze prison in 1981.

Four other men from Londonderry, who were held on the Fanad peninsula on Thursday night, were expected to be released by the police after fingerprinting and questioning. Their relatives alleged that the men, from the Shantallow area of Londonderry, had been in the republic on a regular weekly fishing trip, that their car was packed with fishing tackle and lunch boxes.

In Co Donegal the police were combing the rugged countryside for up to eight members of the gang who fled in four hijacked cars as the police arrived at the five-bedroom house in Gortahork, where Mr Richard Hill,

aged 50, and his daughter, Diane, aged 13, had been held for almost two weeks. Detectives believe at least 10 people, including a woman, were involved in their abduction from a holiday home in Co Mayo as part of an attempt to force Mr Kirkpatrick, formerly Belfast quartermaster of INLA, to withdraw statements implicating 18 people in serious terrorist crime.

As Mr Hill, his wife, Eileen, and daughter, Diane, returned to their home in Belfast yesterday there was growing concern over the fate of Mrs Elizabeth Kirkpatrick, aged 24, the wife of Henry Kirkpatrick.

She was abducted from her parents' home in West Belfast in June by hooded men. The INLA has threatened to kill her soon. With the release of the Hills, pressure is mounting on the terrorists to carry out their threats or have them revealed as empty threats.

The INLA now know that Mrs Kirkpatrick's capture has not caused her husband to withdraw his evidence. Mr Kirkpatrick wrote to his mother and wife from his cell in the annex of Crumlin Road jail some time ago saying he wanted nothing more to do with them.



Mrs Eileen Hill (centre) reunited with her husband, Richard, and daughter, Diane, yesterday, and Mrs Elizabeth Kirkpatrick (inset), who is still missing.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is reviewing all its specialist sections, their organization, and their policy-making powers after their rapid growth in recent years and attempts by some sections to take policy beyond the area of nuclear disarmament. The review was under way well before the present dispute over the activities of Youth CND, technically a youth wing of CND rather than a specialist section.

The national committee of youth CND has been suspended and all decisions taken at its annual conference last month were declared void after irregularities were discovered: membership cards inadequately checked, ages were not checked and a resolution was passed supporting a demonstration next month against the Chilean regime, which is outside CND's policy.

Only 29 of the 200 or so CND groups attended the conference; one group, Oxford, held almost a fifth of the votes among the 200 people who attended, out of a total membership of 3,000. In the weeks before the conference the Oxford group registered 130 new members. It has some Socialist League members and has held committee meetings at 26 Bellingdon Road, the address at the centre of the BL "moles" dispute.

The action over Youth CND comes after a decision in June to put four national council members on the executive of Labour CND with power to veto any decision out of line with CND's policy after irregularities at Labour CND's annual conference earlier this year.

According to CND sources, about 400 people attended the conference compared with 60 last year, membership was not checked and some Socialist League members were elected to its executive. Internal arguments about policy within the executive followed. Matters came to a head over attempts within the executive to donate money to Socialist Action, the newspaper of the Socialist League, and over a model resolution to be sent to constituency Labour parties for the year's Labour Party conference calling on a Labour government to scrap all nuclear weapons immediately on taking office. Labour policy is to implement a non-nuclear defence policy over the lifetime of a Labour government. Some Labour CND executive members considered the membership and asked CND's national council to intervene. Mr Bruce Kent, general secretary of CND, said yesterday that the decisions over Labour CND and youth YCND were not a witch-hunt but an attempt to ensure that the sections were representative of their membership.

Review of legal aid principles

By a Staff Reporter

The Government has launched a review of the principles behind legal aid after criticism of the way the system is working.

Lord Hailsham, of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, has asked the Legal Aid Advisory Committee to review eligibility limits for civil and criminal aid and the non-financial criteria for the grant of legal aid.

Lord Hailsham said: "I am inviting the advisory committee to undertake a fresh look at the basic principles of legal aid". The last full review of criminal legal aid was that of the Widgery report of 1966; the main source document for civil legal aid is still the Ruschcliffe report of 1945.

Lord Hailsham said recently that the legal aid service is "cascading out of control". Costs have more than doubled in the past five years, with the Lord Chancellor's department estimating that £300m will be spent in 1983-84.

The review comes in the wake of criticisms that the legal aid system largely restricts action through the courts to the relatively poor and the well-off, leaving out many middle-income people.

Free legal aid is available for civil proceedings only to those with a capital of less than £2,500 and a disposable income of less than £1,965. Above that, contributions can be made. Those with disposable incomes above £4,720 and capital of £4,000 are usually ineligible.

In civil cases the non-financial criteria include a decision by the Law Society on whether there are reasonable grounds for proceeding with the case. In the criminal area the tests laid out in the Widgery report include the consequences for someone if convicted and whether a substantial point of law is at issue.

The Legal Action Group, a pressure group of lawyers said last night that it suspected this reference was an attempt to produce cuts in legal aid.

Letter bomb is sent to doomed colliery

The manager of the doomed Cardowan colliery near Glasgow received a letter bomb yesterday. The device failed to explode, the coal board said. Earlier yesterday, the Glasgow office of the Press Association newsagency received a letter from the Scottish National Liberation Army. It said: "SNLA attacks on 19/20. No more cuts."

The coal board wants to close the pit because it is making heavy losses. Cardowan employed 1,090 miners, but 300 have already left voluntarily and about seventy have been transferred to other pits. Work at two Scottish collieries was halted for several days last month because miners object to the transfers.

Mr Alex Ferry, National Union of Mineworkers' delegate at Cardowan, said: "Our reaction to what has happened is one of anger. All I can say to these people is that we do not want them associated with our cause. The men here are shocked. Things like this always happen to someone else; you do not expect it in a place like this."

Miners' union leaders appealed to the coal board on Tuesday to retain Cardowan and the colliery at Brynllyn, South Wales.

Mr Michael McGahey, Scottish miners' leader, said Cardowan could have a viable future if the board invested in machinery. Glasgow police confirmed that a letter had been sent to Cardowan and had been taken away for examination. They warned people handling letters to look out for other devices.

A police spokesman said: "Following the delivery of a letter claiming responsibility, purported to be from the SNLA to the Press Association in Glasgow, we warn people handling mail to be alert to the possibility of similar suspicious envelopes appearing in the post."

The Scottish National Liberation Army has been linked with more than a dozen letter bombs or hoaxes in the past year. In June, the group claimed responsibility for an incendiary device sent to Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary. Each time a letter bomb was posted, there was a statement to the Press Association for the SNLA.

Closure threat to paper after big losses

By Amanda Haigh

The Evening Post-Echo in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, will close on November 16 with the loss of 394 jobs unless a buyer is found, Thomson Regional Newspapers announced yesterday (Amanda Haigh writes).

Mr William Heeps, the managing director, said that the company's operation had lost £2m over the past three years and the forecast this year was for a loss of £1m.

The circulation of the newspaper, established in 1967, had fallen from 92,742 in 1976 to 61,876 in 1982; advertising had fallen due to the recession and

the proliferation of other media, such as free newspapers, in the area, Mr Heeps said.

"This market is unlikely to recover for some time, and never to anything approaching the higher levels of the past", he said.

The closure will also effect editions covering Dunstable, Luton, Watford and St Albans.

The Post-Echo, one of the newest evening newspapers in the country, has had a troubled industrial relations record. If it closes, it will be the first shutdown this year of an evening newspaper.

Tebbit gives hope to TUC

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The restoration of normal relations between the TUC and Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, appeared closer last night after a second meeting within 24 hours gave union leaders hope that he would modify proposals for ending the payment of wages in cash.

A TUC delegation spent an hour with Mr Tebbit pressing him to slow plans to phase in the payment of wages by cheque or bank credit. It is likely that a joint investigation, joined by business leaders and the High Street banks, will look into problems arising out of planned legislation.

Mr Tebbit has said he intends to repeal the nineteenth century Truck Acts which entitle workers to demand payment by

whatever means they wish and accordingly will denounce next month the International Labour Organization (ILO) convention 95 to which the Government is a signatory.

The convention offers wage protection to workers and the talks between the TUC and the Department of Employment are likely to centre on maintaining those sections of the convention not concerned with payment of wages in cash. Department lawyers believe the Government has to denounce the convention before it can repeal the Truck Acts.

Union leaders at yesterday's meeting also asked Mr Tebbit to consider introducing new laws to outlaw reducing the wages of a person in control of a bill which shows shortages. They

cited a recent case in which a petrol pump attendant's weekly wage was 16p after deductions caused by motorists driving away without paying.

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, said the delegation had emphasized "our very real concern that workers should have the basic right to be paid in the way in which they want".

He said they had called for action against "unscrupulous" employers who were not prepared to guarantee payment of wages each week to their workers, but added: "We have made progress today and Mr Tebbit appeared willing to look again at his proposals, which were put forward in a rather arbitrary way".

Talks fail to end Nigg yard dispute

By a Staff Reporter

Management and union leaders from Highland Fabricator's oil platform yard at Nigg held separate meetings throughout yesterday without coming any nearer to resolving a dispute which led to the dismissal of the yard's 2,000 hourly-paid workers on Thursday.

Management have ruled out the possibility of meeting shop stewards but say they are prepared to talk with officials of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers who travelled up to Nigg, 50 miles north of Inverness, yesterday.

A spokesman said the company will begin recruiting a new workforce next week. It is believed at least 500 of the dismissed workers will not be re-hired. Management say the firm is fighting for its life.

Protest at 'tax for weapons'

Canon Paul Oestreicher, aged 31, a vice-president of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, appeared at Lambeth County Court yesterday after refusing to pay £30 of his income tax which, he says, would go towards nuclear weapons.

He was granted leave to appeal by Judge Magnus, and the case will be heard at a date to be fixed. After the brief hearing Canon Oestreicher said: "I am very, very pleased. I believe it is the first time an appeal has been heard in a case of this kind."

He said he had worked out the amount based on the level of national spending which goes on defence and the proportion of that which is dedicated to nuclear weapons. Canon Oestreicher, one of four vice-presidents of CND,



Canon Oestreicher. Granted an appeal.

was ordered last month to pay the tax demand or face having the money taken forcibly from his bank account.

The judge ruled that Canon Oestreicher, international secretary of the British Council of Churches and an honorary canon of Southwark Cathedral, had sufficient grounds for an appeal against paying the demand.

CND to review its specialist groups

By Nicholas Timmins

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Mother's threat to sue over loss of baby

Mr Martin Newton and his wife, Moira, have been offered £750 compensation for the loss of their 8lb 5oz baby, Leanne Michelle, who died four days after birth in a hospital in Chesterfield.

The baby was delivered in Scarsdale Hospital by Caesarean section after other methods had been tried. At an inquest two consultants and a pathologist agreed that if the operation had been carried out sooner the baby might have lived.

The baby died a year ago. Now Mrs Newton, aged 24, of Boughton Lane, Clowes, north Derbyshire, who said that at the time she pleaded for a Caesarean because of the baby's size, says she and her husband, a miner, might take out a private legal action.

The Trent Regional Health Authority said: "An offer does not imply we accept we were responsible."

The district administrator for the North Derbyshire Health Authority, Mr John Newton, said: "There was no suggestion of negligence. An offer has been made to the parents and if they accept it they will sign a form on which the authority does not admit liability."

Mestel's ingenuity puts him in the lead again

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent, Southport

Jonathan Mestel, the young English grandmaster, is again in the sole lead in the Grieson Grand British chess championships.

He had a hard game against Hodgson in round 10 which at one time looked a likely draw, but he found an ingenious continuation that enabled him to force a win in 53 moves.

With the fine score of eight points, Mestel enjoys a half-point lead over Murray Chandler who had a good win against Botvinnik in 35 moves.

In losing to the Australian Rogers, Speelman, one of the favourites to win the title, said goodbye to his winning chances. Rogers and his fellow Australian, Johansen, who beat Flear in this round, along with Horner and Martin, are lying in third place with seven points each.

In an adjourned game from...

Traffic jam

Traffic was disrupted on the A4136 in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, yesterday when a lorry carrying 18 tons of blackcurrants split its load.

Overseas selling prices
Austria 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000
Canada 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000
France 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000
Germany 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000
Italy 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000
Japan 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000
Spain 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000
USA 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000

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Kidney disease case in London as search for cause continues

The kidney disease that has caused three deaths in the past month, and affected 28 children in three areas has also affected a child in north London, it was said yesterday.

Dr Paul Gully, a Birmingham consultant in community medicine, visited the Communicable Diseases Surveillance Centre at Colindale, north London, where the search for the source of the disease haemolytic uraemic syndrome, is being coordinated.

Dr Gully is leading the search in the west Midlands, where a woman aged 59, and a girl aged two, have died and 18 children have been infected. Five are still in hospital, and the condition of two was said yesterday to be still causing concern.

He is also in touch with doctors in Sheffield, where there have been six cases, and Manchester, where there have been four, all children. In an apparently isolated case, a Nottingham girl aged nine died on August 12.

Dr Gully said the London case appeared recently, but the child was now well. He declined to pinpoint the area where it happened or the age and sex of the child. He said "I was told about it in confidence for my own information. But it was not part of a cluster. We expect such sporadic cases at this time of the year."

He denied a report that he had suggested ice cream or ice lollies were the possible source. All children ate them particularly in a hot summer. He said parents of the sick children had been asked about a whole range of food and drinks. "We have some ideas we are following up, but there is nothing definite."

At the Centre for Applied Microbiological Science, Porton Down, Wiltshire, Dr Peter Sutton, the director, said there was no progress to report on the cultures of blood samples from infected children. It is suspected that a virus is involved.

He continued: "We are exploring a number of avenues, but nothing has come up yet and it has got to be given longer. It could be a matter of days or weeks."

● Haemolytic uraemic syndrome is a condition in which the sudden rapid destruction of the red blood cells, a process known as haemolysis, causes acute renal failure, partly due to the blocking of the small arteries in the kidney (see Medical Correspondent writes).

The haemolytic process, as well as giving rise to severe anaemia also causes a drop in the number of platelets, particles in the blood essential for clotting. Death, when it occurs, can therefore either be due to kidney failure, a lowered resistance to infection, or severe haemorrhage. Dialysis on a kidney machine can help the patient to overcome the effects of the renal failure, but has no influence on the course of the disease.

The syndrome has been reported for the past 30 years, but has only recently received widespread publicity, probably as the result of a joint exercise being mounted this year by the Communicable Diseases Surveillance Centre and the British Paediatric Association, to monitor all cases in the hope of discovering common factors between them.

It was originally intended that there should be no publicity for the survey, but news of the cases reported to it has appeared in the press through the regional health authorities involved. Doctors hope that the publicity, though unplanned, may stimulate research.

The syndrome occurs in isolated cases as a result of septicæmia, eclamptic fits in pregnancy, or reaction to some drugs, and sometimes in the elderly without an obvious cause.

Particular interest is centred on the sporadic small outbreaks which occur in this country. Usually they affect children in the summer or early autumn.

When cases are clustered together in this way doctors naturally suspect that there might be an infecting agent, in this instance it is thought possible to be a virus. Infection may be only one of several factors; diet deficiency and genetic make-up have both been suggested as others.

Government scientists at Colindale are exploring the theory that the syndrome might be caused by the production of a toxin by one of the organisms which normally give rise to gastro-enteritis. Outbreaks are more common in other parts of the world, particularly South and Central America. Affected children first appear to be suffering from gastro-enteritis, but rapidly lapse into kidney failure. The failure produces nausea, vomiting, headache, itching, and if untreated, then proceeds to sleepiness, confusion, and death.



Clowns at prayer: A quiet moment before the frolics. (Photograph: John Voss).

Clown priests tumble in and take a pew

They were laughing, dancing and rolling in the aisles of St James's Church, Piccadilly, London, yesterday as Britain's first Christian clowning course got under way (Amazanda Haigh writes).

Sixty would-be clowns, from teenagers to pensioners, came from all parts of Britain to learn tumbling, storytelling, puppetry, and make holy foolery of themselves.

The three-day course ends

with an eucharist at the church tomorrow, at which clowns, dancers, and puppeteers will perform the lessons and the prayers. The course was organized by British Christians keen to copy the success in the United States of about 3,000 clown ministry groups led by the clergy. They take their jokes and their message to hospital patients, prisoners, drug addicts and prostitutes.

Mrs Carol Crowther, aged

35, a professional clown from Wimbledon who is leading the course said: "It would be nice if we could persuade people in this country to become clown priests."

The Rev Roly Bain, aged 29, who is on the staff of Southwark Cathedral was taking part in the falling class and still wearing his clerical collar. He said: "Part of what I hope all this will do is to

encourage the Church to make a fool of itself.

Patrick Forbes, joint organizer of the course who is St Albans diocesan communications officer, said: "Humour has got a lot to offer. The Church is far too solemn."

His son Stephen, aged 15, thought the course was great making a fool of himself. "I do that anyway."

Father dug tunnel of death

A beach game designed to amuse children ended in death when Mr Graham Pepper, aged 28, father of two of the children suffocated as the tunnel he was digging collapsed on top of him.

An inquest at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, yesterday was told how other holiday-makers dug with their hands and rescue services fought against the sand in a vain effort to rescue Mr Pepper, a fisherman, of Buttfield Road, Hessele, Hull, from the grave he had dug for himself.

"He was under 10 tons of sand and must have suffocated almost at once," the station officer, Mr Terry Blyth, who led the firemen struggling to reach him said.

Mr Michael Sutton, the coroner, recorded a verdict of misadventure.

Inquests open on 3 crash victims

The inquests on three of the four people who died in the M4 coach crash on Wednesday were opened at Swindon police station, Wiltshire, yesterday when the coroner, Mr John Elgar, heard evidence of identification.

Mrs Eirlys Phillips, aged 52, of Swansea, died from brain contusion and haemorrhage. Mr Patrick Barbes, aged 35, from Paris, died from multiple injuries, and Mr Michael Stephenson, aged 19, of Swansea, from severe head injuries. The inquests were adjourned until October 28.

Warning over hypnotist tapes

Cassette tapes for do-it-yourself hypnotists could lead to death on the roads, Mr Derek Fairley, of the Institute of Curative Hypnotherapists, said yesterday.

The tapes include the popular tune, "A Whiter Shade of Pale" which, if heard on the car radio, might send the driver into a trance with fatal consequences, he said.

Youngest girl to swim channel

Samantha Druce, aged 12 (above) who yesterday became the youngest girl to swim the English Channel.

She took the title from Alison Wetherly, of Howarth Road, Abbey Wood, south-east London, who had held it for about four hours after completing her swim from France to Dover on Thursday.

Driver named

The car driver killed by a train at a level crossing on Thursday while he was being pursued by the police was named yesterday as Mark Vase, aged 19, unemployed of Franklin Court, Park Barn, Guilford, Surrey.

British TV boost for Australia

By David Hewson

More Commonwealth television is to be seen in Britain from next October as a result of an agreement to raise the independent television companies' quota for overseas material.

It will provide an outlet mainly for Australian stations, but there will also be some programmes from Canada.

Independent companies are at present limited by the Independent Broadcasting Authority to showing a maximum of 14 per cent of overseas material. That figure is to be raised to 15.5 per cent - provided that the extra material comes from the Commonwealth.

One ITV executive said last night: "Australian television and films have improved tremendously in quality in recent years.

The level of American and other foreign material will stay at 14 per cent, though several categories are exempt, including classic films made before 1945.

Many television executives feel that the Commonwealth countries could have made greater inroads into British television in recent years if Britain's entry into the EEC had not brought about a rewriting of the quota rules.

The IBA has interpreted EEC regulations as dictating that programmes and films made within the Community should count as a British product, although few are even dubbed in English.



New Dr Who: Colin Baker, who succeeds Peter Davison in the BBC television series, posing yesterday with Nicola Bryant, the doctor's latest assistant "Pari". Baker, who is aged

Pre-school computer programs

By Bill Johnston

Electronics Correspondent

Children in future may well discard their coloured balls and painting books in favour of home computers if a new type of program written specifically for children aged four to eight is successful.

Longman, the educational publishers, has launched three home computer programs designed to help children to take their first faltering steps towards literacy and numeracy.

The group has been involved in developing microcomputer software for schools, but these new programs effectively introduce it to the home computing market. Each of the programs is accompanied by an instruction book for parents.

The programs have been devised for the Sinclair Spectrum, the best-selling home computer in Britain, which can produce coloured effects. There are more than a million home computers in Britain.

Thorn-EMI is designing its own educational computer programs which it intends to send through cable television networks next year.

Jealous man jailed for kidnap plot

An obsessively jealous husband paid two men £2,000 to kidnap his former wife so that he could murder her, but when she tricked him out of the money he went to the police to complain, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Describing the "extraordinary" case, Mr John Bevan, for the prosecution, said that at first James Wiles lied to the police. He told them he had paid the Doris, aged 45, but had changed his mind and wanted to stop them.

Then he admitted that he had paid the money so they would kidnap her and bring her to him in a drugged state when he could murder her.

Wiles, aged 49, a painter of Patterson Point, Fife Road, Canning Town, east London, admitted incitement to kidnap and was jailed for five years which Judge Dewhurst said he doubted was long enough.

"You are an extreme danger to your wife, a menace to her, and the only safeguard is to lock you up for a considerable time," he said.

Mr Bevan said Wiles described to police his obsessive jealousy about his former wife.

Warning to drivers of Volvos

By Clifford Webb

Motoring Correspondent

Volvo is writing to 25,000 owners of automatic versions of its 300 series car, telling them to check their driving techniques after reports that the car can shoot forward out of control immediately after starting the engine.

Dr John Tintner, a London general practitioner and Volvo owner, has called for a Government investigation and a recall of all Volvo 300s.

However, independent investigations by the Motor Industry Research Association (MIRA) and the Department of Transport have cleared the car of any faults that could cause a sudden surge forward.

Department of Trade inspectors interviewed several Volvo owners before visiting the Dutch factory where the 1397cc car is made. They saw the installation of the belt-driven, continuously variable automatic gearbox acquired when Volvo bought the former Daf car company.

A senior executive at Volvo Concessionaires Limited of High Wycombe, which handles all Volvo imports, said last night: "Following the MIRA report and the action of the Department of Transport we are confident that it is impossible for the car to go out of control without driver error."

He declined to speculate on other causes, but agreed that driver error appeared to be the only alternative.

A Volvo dealer offered a possible explanation last night. He said: "A lot of elderly motorists buy the 300 automatic. They start the engine with the choke out which means that it will be revving very fast, engage drive, and then wonder why it has shot forward without them touching the accelerator."

Woman in affair with boy keeps job

A social worker who had an affair with a boy aged 15 at an assessment centre for problem children is to stay in council employment.

The woman, aged 23, carried on the affair for almost a year after being told to end it. She was promoted after she promised never to see the boy again.

Now Liverpool Labour councillors have decided she should not lose her job with the City Council, but be transferred to a job away from child care. The boy is still in council care.

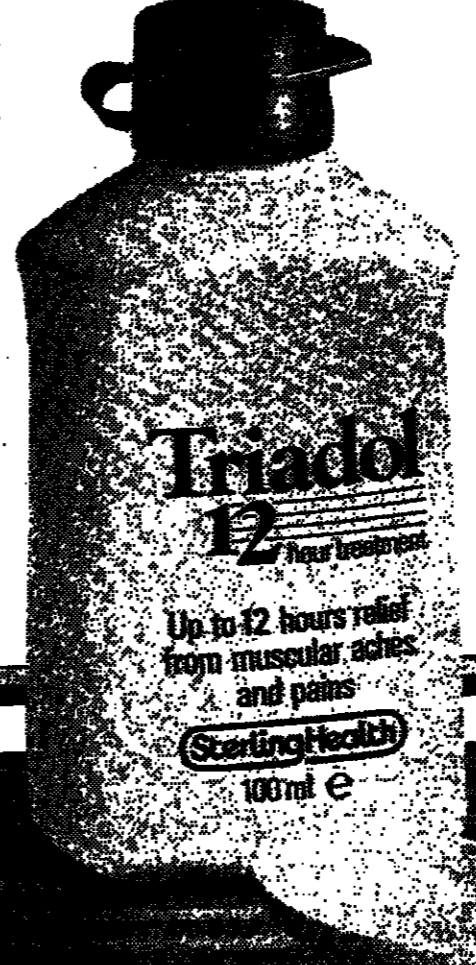
The unnamed woman, who was 21 when the affair started, was a houseparent at New Heyes Assessment centre when she was confronted about the affair by an acting social worker and the deputy warden of the centre. At a further meeting in November, 1981, she promised to end the relationship, and in May she was promoted to supervisor at another centre.

But the affair continued in secret until February this year when the boy's mother discovered three love letters written to her son by the social worker, who was immediately suspended on full pay.

But despite a recommendation by the city's social services director, Mr Donald

Muscular pain is a particularly persistent kind of pain. Almost like a bodily toothache. That's why ordinary remedies are seldom enough. Because unless you keep repeating the treatment throughout the day, the pain simply comes back. With new Triadol, however, that problem doesn't exist. Because it's the medicine specially formulated to give up to 12 hour relief from muscular aches and pains. Specially developed, after many years of research, to deal with the specific problems of

muscular pain, Triadol is now available from Sterling Health. Triadol is more than just an effective painkiller. It actually works in three ways. Triadol eases the pain quickly. It also relieves stiffness and reduces inflammation and Triadol goes on working for up to 12 hours. So you can take Triadol in the morning and forget further treatment for the rest of the day. You'll find Triadol in most chemists. You'll also find it a bit more expensive than ordinary treatments. But then, you won't find anything better.



NEW TRIADOL UP TO 12 HOUR RELIEF FROM MUSCULAR ACHES AND PAINS. **Triadol** 12 hour treatment

Muscular pain? Forget it.

US-backed insurgents admit they cannot win war in Nicaragua

Tegucigalpa, Honduras (Reuters) - Five months after they predicted imminent victory, the leaders of US-backed insurgents fighting Nicaragua's left-wing government admit they have started a war they cannot hope to win.

"There can be no purely military victory," Senior Edgar Chamorro, a key figure in the seven-member Directorate of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) said. "There should be negotiations."

Last March, Senior Chamorro described FDN guerrillas fighting inside Nicaragua as "the vanguard of the general insurrection". One of his directorate colleagues confidently proclaimed: "We shall be rejecting in liberated territory within 60 days."

At that time, an FDN force estimated at about 2,000 was fighting in north-western and central Nicaragua after slipping across the border from Honduras. But they failed to start an uprising and were driven back to the mountains along the frontier.

Now FDN leaders say they need more money, more arms and many more men to convince the Nicaraguan Government it must negotiate with the right-wing insurgents - an objective that falls far short of the FDN's original declared aim.

"We have 10,000 men now," Senior Chamorro said in

interviews with Reuters. "But we want to build up our force to 25,000." This would match the strength of Nicaragua's regular army.

With the help of the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the FDN blossomed from a motley group of 500 to its present size in less than two years.

US assistance to the FDN, by far the largest of several exile groups opposed to Nicaragua's ruling Sandinist National Liberation Front, led to an angry debate in the United States.

FDN chiefs say they want to immerse their fighting strength to wear down the Sandinistas and force them to discuss demands for democratic reforms, an end to ties with the Soviet Union and Cuba, and a pledge to stop exporting Marxist revolution.

The insurgents apparently feel a massive show of military muscle by the United States might make the Managua leadership more amenable to talks. "The only language the Sandinistas understand is the language of force," Senior Chamorro commented. "They must be addressed in that language."

MANAGUA: Senior Humberto Ortega, the Nicaraguan Defence Minister, said that guerrillas fighting the Sandinistas in Government were waging their biggest offensive of the



Hurricane looting brings 120 arrests

Damaged yachts lying in the remains of a marina at Nassau Bay, Texas, after Hurricane Alicia had passed.

About 120 people have been arrested for looting in Houston and Galveston in the wake of the hurricane (Reuters reports). Six people were killed by the storm and officials estimated property damage at possibly as much as \$1,000m (£660m) in the area of Houston, the fifth largest United States city. More than 100 people were arrested for looting in central Houston.

A police spokesman said looting of stores began even before the storm passed on Thursday, despite winds that reached up to 89 mph and blew hundreds of windows out of shops and skyscrapers throughout the business

Car blast hurts 20 in Tripoli

Beirut - Twenty people were injured, several seriously, when a bomb exploded in a Mercedes car parked outside the Abdullah al-Bisar hospital in Tripoli, northern Lebanon. Two weeks ago a car bomb killed 19 people outside a Tripoli mosque (Kate Dougan writes).

The bomb went off a short distance from the offices of the October 24 Movement, an anti-Syrian militia supporting the Government of President Amin Gemayel.

In southern Lebanon, local authorities found 22 decomposing bodies under the rubble of a building in Sidon, once used by the Palestinian Liberation Organization as a prison.

Turkish editors for questioning

Istanbul (Reuters) - Two editors and two columnists of the banned Turkish newspapers *Tercihan* (right of centre) and *Milliyet* (conservative) are to be questioned by the martial law authorities.

Mr Nazli Ilıcak, columnist and Mr Unal Salkmaz, senior editor, have been ordered to appear before the prosecutor. So have Mr Dogan Heger, editor-in-chief of *Milliyet* and Mr Metin Tokur, a columnist.

Crooks' tour

Marseille (AFP) - Six men attacked security guards making a delivery to the Thomas Cook travel agency and stole 3m francs (£250,000).

Lend's denial

Iran Lend, the Czechoslovak tennis star, who told reporters in Mason, Ohio, that he enjoys "the easy life" in the United States, but had no plans to defect. A London newspaper, quoting exile sources, had reported that he had decided to do so.

Protests 'put down brutally'

Santiago (AFP) - Chilean protests last week were put down with an unusual degree of "brutality, sadism and fury," according to a group of doctors here.

Twenty-four demonstrators were killed and dozens more suffered gunshot wounds during last Thursday's national protest day, the fourth in as many months against the regime of President Pinochet.

Caretaker job

Rarotonga (Reuters) - The former Prime Minister, Mr Geoffrey Henry, is to head a caretaker government in the Cook Islands until new elections are held on November 2. The Queen's Representative, Sir Gaven Donne, announced. It will be banned from making new policies or changing existing ones.

Writers' scrum

Johannesburg (Reuters) - A lavish 10-day conference for about 80 overseas rugby writers, costing an estimated \$300,000 (£330,000), opens in Cape Town on Monday, marking another South African attempt to prove itself ready to be allowed back into the international arena.

Hatred day

Bangkok (AFP) - Cambodia has fixed next May 20 as the planned "national day of hatred" against the former Khmer Rouge regime. The people would be able to remember forever the black years of Pol Pot, Ieng Sary and Khieu Samphan, said the Phnom Penh news agency SPK.

Space supplies

Moscow (AP) - An unmanned spacecraft Progress 17, carrying fuel, air, water, food and other supplies to the Soviet cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Aleksandr Aleksandrov in the orbiting Salyut 7 complex docked with the space station. They are in their eighth week aloft.

Airliner Fire

Rome (Reuters) - A Syrian Airlines Boeing 727 bound for Damascus caught fire at Rome airport as 154 passengers were boarding. There was panic on the runway as the plane's engines sputtered and flames inside struggled to get out. The airport was closed for an hour.

Animal crackers

Moscow (AP) - Three Siberian tigers, Alisa, Astra and Tyulpan, from the Soviet Far East, a gift from Moscow Zoo to the United States in exchange for a sea lion, will be obliged to make the trip next week via Montreal. Since martial law in Poland, President Reagan has suspended Aeroflot's US landing rights.

Relations with Washington at new low

France plays the naughty boy over Chad

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

"As usual the French want to have it all their way," remarked a disgruntled US official, looking up from a map showing the latest situation in the civil war in Chad. "They don't want to see Libya taking over the place, but are not prepared to do much to prevent this happening, and they become exceedingly resentful when this is pointed out."

The crisis in Chad has brought US-French relations to a low level.

When President Reagan and President Mitterrand held their first meeting in Washington two years ago it appeared that an unlikely affinity had developed between the West's most influential conservative and socialist leaders.

However the honeymoon did not last long, and has successfully been strained by the dispute over the Soviet gas pipeline, differences in approach towards the Communist bloc, disagreements over how to handle the crisis in Central America and French anger over the impact which the strong dollar and high interest rates are having on the French economy.

Paradoxically, despite these irritants, France remains one of the US's closest supporters on defence issues and the need to deploy new medium-range missiles in Europe.

Seen from Washington, France is again playing its traditional role of the naughty boy in the European classroom, just as it did under President de Gaulle. "France is always resentful of America's influence, but doubly so when it involves one of France's former territories," the official said.

The cause of the present tension is the two countries' differing interpretations of what is happening in Chad. The US sees the dispute in East-West terms, with Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, as the chief villain who, with Soviet arms, is bent on empire-building in Central Africa.

France views it essentially as a regional dispute between two nationalist leaders. It wants to isolate it from superpower conflict and also keep open its expanding commercial relations with Libya.

President Mitterrand's Government, which has tried to wind down France's traditional role of policing its former African colonies, favours negotiating with Libya as the best way of stopping the fighting. The Americans, however, with strong Egyptian and Sudanese backing, want Colonel Gaddafi to be cut down to size.

The US has been openly critical of France's failure to act quickly and decisively in what President Reagan described as its "sphere of influence," a neo-colonial reference which does not go down well in socialist Paris. The delay in the dispatch of French troops and refusal to send fighter aircraft to Chad is seen in Washington as being largely responsible for the recent military successes of the Libyan-backed rebel forces.

Riot-tense Nigerians poll for second time

Lagos (Reuters) - Nigerians were preparing yesterday to vote in senatorial elections under the shadow of government warnings against a repetition of the violence which marred the elections for governors last weekend.

At least 33 people died in Oyo state in clashes which started with allegations of election rigging during last Saturday's vote.

Voting in today's senatorial elections has been postponed in Oyo and in the restive neighbouring state of Ondo, where there were similar violent protests against the gubernatorial result. Polling will go ahead as planned in Nigeria's 17 other states.

There are no official casualty figures for the Ondo violence. In both states, which are under night curfew and heavy paramilitary police control, incumbent governors of the opposition Unity Party of Nigeria were defeated by candidates of President Shehu Shagari's National Party of Nigeria.

In its first official reaction to the political violence, the government has accused certain unnamed politicians of encouraging the killing, looting and arson. "Government is determined to maintain peace and order in the few areas affected and, indeed, throughout the country," it said in a statement issued by the President's office.

In a related development, Mr Audu Ogben, the Communications Minister, threatened to close down radio and television stations found to be encouraging violence.

AKURE: Dozens of burnt-out cars and the shells of houses remained a stark reminder of the violence in this capital of Ondo state on Wednesday, as the situation gradually began to return to normal (AFP reports).

Murderers on rampage

From David Bonavia, Peking

Two brothers, one of them an escaped convict, the other a former army marksman, have roamed from north to south China in recent months shooting dead more than 20 people, mainly policemen, according to an informed source.

High officials in Peking have been warned to guard against assassination attempts by the men, who are said to be disaffected and infuriated by the Government's strict birth-control policy.

Their rampage is one of a number of violent crimes which have led the Government to round up known criminals, especially young people, for deportation to the remote province of Qinghai.



Glad to be home

Anrei Berezhkov, aged 16, the Soviet diplomat's son who disappeared from his home in Washington for 24 hours last week and later denied writing to President Reagan to ask for political asylum, arriving in Paris yesterday on his way back to Russia.

On arrival later at Sheremetyevo airport, Moscow, the boy, smiling broadly and accompanied by his father, a first secretary at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, said: "I'm glad to be back." Asked if he was pleased to leave the US, the country he allegedly wanted to make his home, he said: "Yes, glad to leave." But earlier, he had asked reporters to say hello to Mick Jagger, the lead singer of the Rolling Stones, for him. "I love him", he said.

Western Sahara war unresolved

Morocco chases a referendum mirage

From Geoffrey Morrison, Dakhia, Western Sahara

Apparently, since it concerns the future of an area of sand slightly bigger than Britain, the proposed referendum of the Western Sahara looks increasingly like a political mirage.

But this week the Moroccan Administration would itself set up to win whatever contest may emerge by sending political leaders on a campaign trail in the four main towns in this territory which has been fought over for more than seven years by Morocco and the Polisario guerrillas, who want an independent state.

The Organization of African Unity (OAU) called at its summit in June for a ceasefire and for a referendum before the end of this year. But the war goes on, the seven-nation OAU "implementation committee" has not yet met and the competing parties disagree on a host of things, not least on who should be eligible to vote.

The Spanish, the Western Sahara's colonizers, split it into two in 1976, handing the northern part to Morocco and the southern chunk to Mauritania.

In 1979 the Mauritians, tired of their war with the Polisario, pulled out of their administrative headquarters here and the Moroccans promptly moved in.

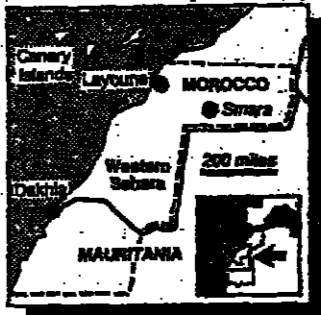
Since then, the war has continued with the Moroccans consolidating their defences in the northern part of the territory - the so-called "useful Sahara" - which contains the capital, Layoune, and the nearby phosphate deposits, behind a 350-mile sand wall.

Here in Dakhia, a windy desert town built on a long promontory surrounded by the Atlantic, they have their only important outpost beyond the wall.

Ostensibly, Mr Driss Bazi, the Interior Minister, came here to install a new regional governor but as he and his colleagues spoke it was soon clear that this was a political campaign.

Loud applause from the men ringing the town's main square and shrill ululations from the women, many of whom waved King Hassan's portrait, greeted ministers' every mention of the monarch.

But perhaps most striking was to see, sitting on the same



Pretoria trial for extremist white group

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg

The trial of members of South Africa's white extremist Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (Afrikaner Resistance Movement) on terrorism charges is to be heard before the Supreme Court in Pretoria.

Eugene Terre Blanche, the movement's leader, Daniel Viljoen, Jan Groenewald and David Botha, appeared yesterday before a Pretoria regional magistrate who was told the Transvaal Attorney-General had ordered them to stand trial in the Supreme Court on October 11.

Mr Viljoen is serving a 15 year prison sentence for plotting to overthrow the Government. The other three were freed on bail of 1,000 rands (£660).

NELSPRUIT: Eight warders have gone on trial in this eastern Transvaal town charged with beating three inmates to death with rubber truncheons as they tumbled in searing heat at a prison farm (Reuters reports).

Kidnap gang leader killed in Zimbabwe

Harare (Reuters) - Zimbabwean security forces are reported to have killed the leader of a group of rebels who kidnapped six foreign tourists last year.

The State Security Minister, Mr Emmeson Muzungu, was quoted in the *Herald* newspaper yesterday as saying the man was captured on August 9 in the Lupane district of Matabeleland, where the two American, two British and two Australian travellers were abducted 13 months ago. Their fate is still unknown.

He was identified by locals as Ndeveziqumlamakomicho (the beard that breaks the cup), the report said.

He was shot dead by the commander of the army unit that captured him.

The tourists, who included Mr James Greenwell, aged 18, and Mr Martyn Hodgson, aged 35, from Britain, were seized on July 23 last year as they drove from Victoria Falls to Bulawayo.



General Doe: Military talks planned

General Samuel Doe, the Liberian leader, is scheduled to make a four-day state visit to Israel next week, the first black African head of state to make such an official trip since 29 African countries broke off diplomatic ties following the 1973 War.

Accompanied by six ministers, the Liberian leader is expected to devote some of his time to touring army bases and discussing a military deal. His arrival will follow last week's decision by Liberia to resume diplomatic ties with Israel, a step taken earlier by Zaire in May last year.

Announcing the visit, a jubilant Israeli official cited the move by General Doe as proof that the Begin government has now succeeded in escaping from the diplomatic isolation which resulted from the war in Lebanon and the saturation bombing of Beirut.

To support the claim, he produced a list of other recent diplomatic successes, including the decision of El Salvador to transfer its embassy back to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv, the decision of the EEC countries to drop sanctions imposed on Israel after the invasion of Lebanon and the visit due later this month of Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor.

Other recent examples of Israel's strengthened world standing are listed as greatly improved relations with the United States, the repeated hints of an imminent decision by Spain to open diplomatic ties, and this week's successful visit to Romania by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's foreign minister.

"Who would have thought that a year to the day since Israeli jets were launching their heaviest raids on west Beirut our foreign minister would have been warmly welcomed in the capital of a Communist country," said the Jerusalem official. "All these things are part of a trend which started with the signing of our agreement with Lebanon in May."

Among other African states on which Israeli hopes are now pinned are Nigeria, Ivory Coast, the Central African Republic, Togo and Senegal.

Coup-shocked Upper Volta tries to shake off economic torpor

From Patrick Van Rooye, Agence France-Presse Ouagadougou

The political instability wracking Upper Volta in the past few months has considerably aggravated the difficult economic situation of one of the poorest countries in the world.

Worried businessmen say the new revolutionary council set up by paratroop Captain Thomas Sankara after his coup here in early August will have its work cut out restoring confidence.

Periods of crisis and political tension have afflicted this West African state for over a year.

Last November the Saye Zorbo military regime fell after two years in power. An army doctor, Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, took over. Last May he dropped Captain Sankara from the premiership and placed him in detention for a month.

Then on the night of August 4 the captain took his revenge, ousting Major Ouedraogo only moments after he had finished broadcasting an independence anniversary message to the nation.

One aspect of these repeated crises has been the closure of the landlocked state's borders, which has hampered economic activity when the country is already badly hit by the world recession.

In addition, a curfew has been in force for many months. It has complicated the proper working of many firms. Staff have had to sleep at their places of work.

Visitors have become much rarer. The hotels at the moment have at best only 5 per cent occupancy. The tourist season looks badly compromised. There has been a spate of cancellations of hotel bookings.

"How could it be otherwise?" a hotel employee asked. "The borders still remain closed at

Coup-shocked Upper Volta tries to shake off economic torpor

night. The airport is still under guard by armed soldiers, and the airlines have been forced to rearrange their flight times to abide by the curfew."

Heads of major companies call the economy stagnant. They are talking of having to lay off up to 25 per cent of their staff if there is no improvement in the near future.

"Our general expenses remain the same even when business isn't moving," one explained. "The electricity we pay for here is among the most expensive in the world."

Captain Sankara is said to be fully aware of the economic difficulties, and some of his initial statements about getting Upper Volta moving along the path of progress have been well received.

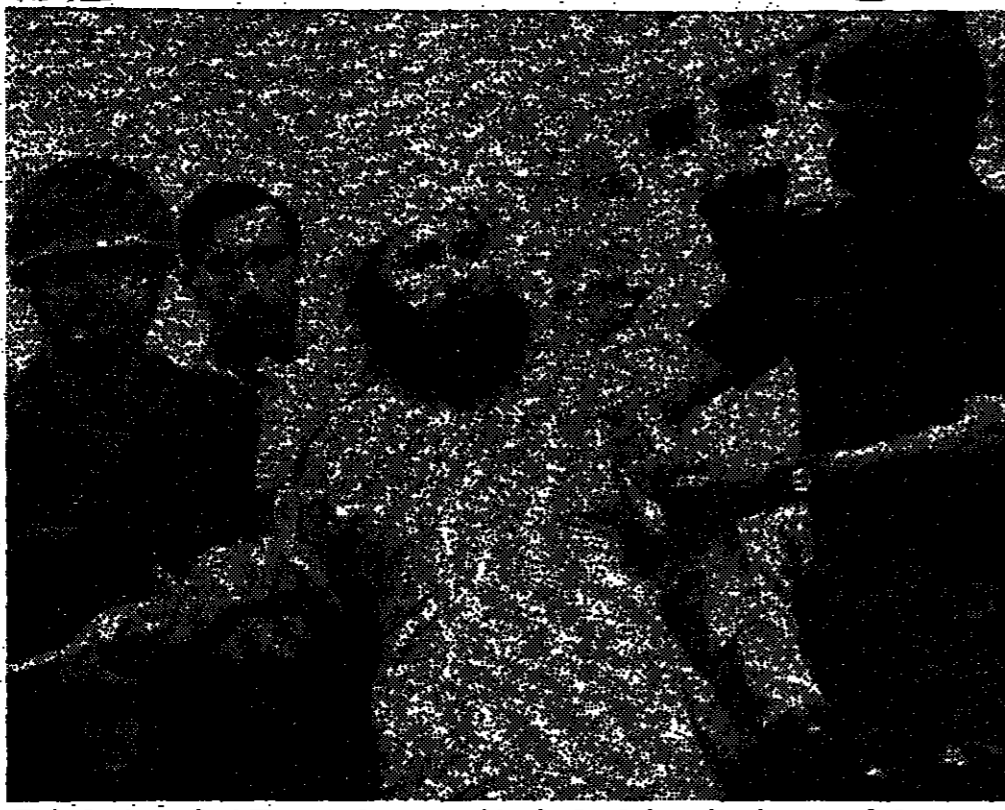
But there are fears that the "new revolution" he is propounding and its radical leftist terminology could excite suspicion and fear in some quarters.

Everybody starts hurrying home at 6 p.m., for fear of being caught outside during curfew and being shot in the legs. An hour later, the city is dead until dawn, when the streets come back to life.

Pakistan's deepening crisis

Anti-Zia protesters sabotage railways

From Our Correspondent Islamabad
Protesters against President Zia ul-Haq's martial law regime yesterday ripped up 300 yards of railway lines in Sindh province, seriously disrupting railway traffic between the northern and southern parts of Pakistan. A railway engine sent along the line as a safety measure was derailed near Chokki station.



End of protest: Qari Sher Afzal, an opposition leader, being taken into custody by troops during anti-martial law demonstrations in Karachi.

Larkana, Mr Bhutto's home town, Jacobabad and Naushero Feroz. At the same time, the martial law authorities have introduced harsher penalties to check anti-regime agitation across the country.

On Thursday a Lahore military court passed a sentence of one year's jail on Mr Chanduri Mohammad Arshad, a former member of General Zia's military Government and the present president of the Pakistan Democratic Party. He was also fined 20,000 rupees (£1,000).

The Karachi Bar Association and several opposition leaders have demanded an end to the summary trials and asked the Government to provide full information about the detained persons. Many top opposition leaders have been detained for up to 90

days to prevent them taking part in the civil disobedience campaigns. The leaders of Mr Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party have been severely dealt with. Miss Benazir Bhutto, the executed Prime Minister's daughter, has indeed been detained since March, 1981, long before the current anti-martial law agitation was planned. The Government has repeatedly warned the public that anyone found guilty of violating martial law regulation 48 could be sentenced to 14 years' rigorous imprisonment, whipped and fined. This martial law regulation prohibits all political activities or incitement to political activity. Opposition leaders suspect that the Government might use this regulation to force newspapers to stop publishing reports of the disturbances.

Walloons aim for victory at Waterloo

Waterloo, Belgium (AFP) - A group of Walloons, French-speaking Belgians, are on the warpath over alleged British efforts to take over the battlefield where the Duke of Wellington defeated Napoleon in 1815. The "Walloon People's Rally" has issued its war cry: "No to the anglicizing of the battlefield." Senator Jean Humblet, who represents the Walloon part of Brabant, which includes Waterloo, explained that the British were putting up too many signs in English to commemorate the battle. "Six of them have been erected in the past three years on historical buildings, and we are seeing a veritable anglicizing of this famous battlefield." Waterloo, 12 miles south of Brussels, is generally regarded as the place where Napoleon was defeated, rather than of the Duke of Wellington's victory, and has become something of a shrine for the Emperor's admirers. About half a million tourists visit Waterloo every year, and as half are American and British, the Duke of Wellington has decided to form a committee to keep alive the memory of his ancestor. According to Senator Humblet: "Belgium has no reason to be grateful to the Duke of Wellington, particularly as four-fifths of the Walloons fought in the battle on the side of the French."

Extradition of Gelli approved too late

Lausanne (Reuter) - The Swiss Supreme Court yesterday approved the extradition of Licio Gelli, nine days after he escaped from jail and disappeared. The court ruled on a request filed by the Italian Government last Autumn, despite the fact that Signor Gelli's whereabouts are unknown since he escaped from Geneva's Champollion prison on August 10. Signor Gelli, grandmaster of the illegal P2 masonic lodge whose members included Italian Cabinet ministers, bankers, generals and media personalities, was arrested in a Geneva bank on September 13 last year trying to draw \$120m (79m) from a numbered account. Italian magistrates say the right-wing P2 lodge plotted against constitutional order. Its discovery in 1981 led to the downfall of the Italian Government headed by Signor Arnaldo Forlani. Investigators also allege that Signor Gelli, an industrialist, played a role in the fraudulent collapse of the Banco Ambrosiano, which crashed last year with some \$1,400m of its funds missing.



Signor Gelli: His whereabouts unknown.

The court ruled that Signor Gelli's alleged offences, cited in the extradition request as defamation, fraud and fraudulent bankruptcy, were mainly economic and only marginally of a political nature. There was no political reason to bar his extradition, the court said, adding it had no grounds to believe that Italian authorities would prosecute him for offences not recognized as crimes under Swiss law. Motel driver's remorse Alice Springs (Reuter) - Thursday, A fifth victim died later of injuries. Douglas Crabbe, aged 36, the driver, was found by police several hours after the crash on a building site about 10 miles from the motel. No plea was entered when Mr Crabbe appeared on four counts of murder. He was remanded in custody until another hearing scheduled for September 12.

Curfew extended for Sri Lanka pageant

From Our Correspondent, Colombo The night curfew here and in eight other districts was extended by two hours from yesterday until Sunday to enable strengthening of the security forces in the central town of Kandy where the historic annual pageant of elephants, drummers and dancers reaches its climax this weekend. There have been intelligence reports that anti-government forces may attempt to disrupt the pageant by throwing bombs at the elephants. Fourteen spectators died in a stampede in 1959 when an elephant went berserk after it trod on a burning coal that fell from a brazier. In Kandy itself the curfew will be reduced by an hour to enable spectators to return home after the show. There is a similar concession for three towns south of Colombo for a minor pageant. Meanwhile, Mr H. W. Jayewardene, a younger brother of President Jayewardene, left yesterday to tell Asian leaders about steps being taken to restore law and order in Sri Lanka and to resettle and compensate victims of the recent communal violence in which the official death toll was 384. Mr Jayewardene, who was the Sri Lanka Government's special envoy in discussions with the Indian Prime Minister in Delhi last week, will visit Japan, South Korea, China, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

With an interest rate as good as ours, we don't have to shout about it.

How Prague lives with the invader

Prague (AFP) - Fifteen years after Soviet tanks crushed liberal seeds sown in the Prague spring, Czechoslovaks have resumed the quiet habits under the inexorable authority of a troubled power. The anniversary of the invasion falls tonight. The people no longer take part in politics. They work as little as possible and live rather well, leaving a handful of dissidents to pit themselves against the regime. Home politics have been the exclusive prerogative of the Communist Party for 35 years. Czechoslovakia no longer disputes it, going along to the "spontaneous" demonstrations in which they are invited and then counted by mass organizations. Foreign policy has been rigidly based on lessons from Moscow, which Prague has swallowed better than any other Eastern block satellite. Criticism of the West tends to surpass even the teacher's expectations. Yet life is good and getting better: shops are well-stocked, nobody has to queue and savings banks are overflowing. The number of television sets has doubled in the last 12 years. Foreign travel has increased and the high price of petrol does nothing to deter thousands from heading for the country and one of the longest weekends on the Continent every Friday lunchtime. Both of Czechoslovakia's main component races gave up armed struggle against invaders centuries ago, preferring non-violent resistance. With better life than the Soviet invader, who is kept locked up in barracks, the Government is left to ponder how to maintain the status quo.



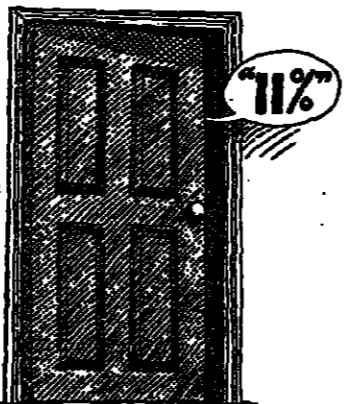
Señor Merin: Sought last-minute concession.

Spain to cut back on fish catches

From Richard Wigg Madrid Spain and Morocco signed a four-year fishing agreement in Rabat yesterday under which Madrid has promised to reduce progressively its catches in Moroccan waters by 40 per cent. Spain will also pay £360m in development aid and pay 60 per cent for the licences required to fish. After months of difficult negotiations, Señor Fernando Merin, the Spanish Foreign Minister, had to fly to Rabat on Thursday to see King Hassan and wrest from him one last-minute concession. This will allow fishing by the Canaries fleet in the Sardinian coastal waters declared a security zone by Morocco in the fight against the Saharan Polisario guerrillas, although the waters further south will be barred to Spain. By accepting such an agreement, the Government has effectively begun the arduous task of restructuring Spain's fishing fleet. The next task is to accept finally the terms of a fishing agreement with Portugal, after the lapse of the old one last December.

Tax shock for Andorra

From Our Own Correspondent, Madrid Andorra, the principality lying between Spain and France in the Pyrenees, is in upheaval after a vote by its Parliament to introduce income tax. The tax will mainly affect financial companies and banks. There is talk of an appeal against the new taxes which would be paid to Andorra's curules, the President of France and the Spanish Bishop of Urgel. The Chief Minister, who had to threaten to resign to get the



From August 1st the interest rate for the National Savings Investment Account is increased to 11% p.a., paid in full, before tax. A very attractive rate. And don't worry, we won't make you pay for it by having your money tied up for ages. All we ask is one month's notice of withdrawal. You'll find full details available at your Post Office. You're better off with an Investment Account



THE TIMES DIARY

False prophets

In 1950, weather forecasts were claimed to be 90 per cent accurate...

Must do better

Bring back school meals. A paper to be presented at the British Association...

O A PHSy was amused when he stepped into a London taxicab...

One and only

The late Ira Gerstwin allowed only one of his brother's manuscripts to pass...

Much binding...

BBC's Breakfast Time evidently thinks TV-am has taken over completely...



BARRY FANTONI DRAMA SCHOOL

'I'll pretend I'm famous, and you be Michael Parkinson'

Conductor! Michel Deneuve, a musician from Paris, has heard about the difficulties...

Over the wash basin in the lavatory of a Canadian publishing house...

Gnoming in Locked out of the Chelsea flower show, garden gnomes will have a Gnomers of their own...

A press advertisement for Agfa films has a shot of a little boy in a beach...

David Hewson on new doubts over the fate of First World War deserters

The men who died at dawn

The first was executed on September 8, 1914, shortly after the British Expeditionary Force's sorry retreat...

During the next six years, until March 1920, courts martial condemned 3,080 men to death...

It is an episode of British military history which has continually provoked an uneasy conscience...

And for those who sought to ignore the circumstantial evidence there was always the great excuse...

moment's notice if military objectives demanded it; rules designed to give the accused a fair hearing...

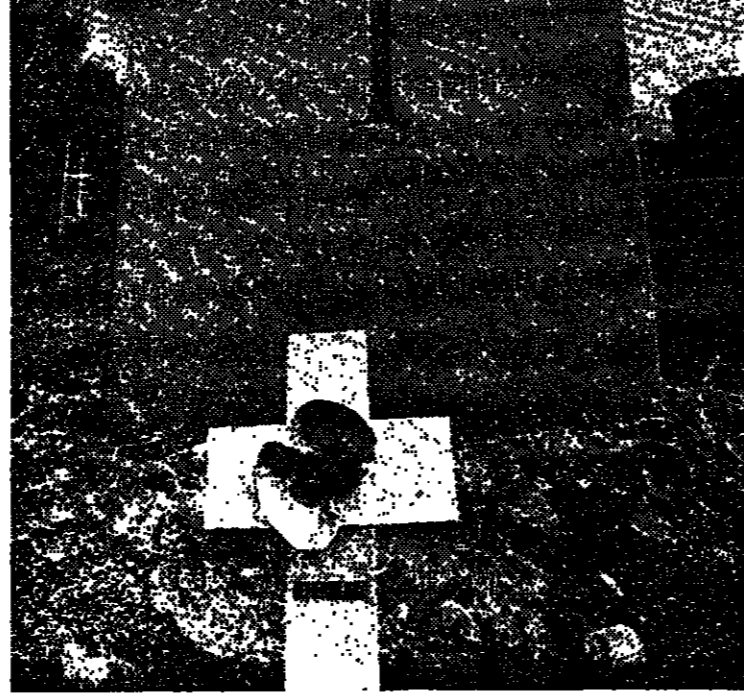
Where the book finally destroys the notion of justice for the accused in the First World War...

In Babington's own words: "Viewed by the standards of today few of the executed men received the most elemental form of justice..."

But viewed today, with the benefit of hindsight, the faults which led most men to the firing squad stem more from reaching a psychological breaking point...

Major-General Frank Richardson, a distinguished former army medical officer who was involved in three testing campaigns of the last war...

For The Sake of Example will be published by Leo Cooper in association with Secker & Warburg, price £8.95.



Edwinn Dyett with his father: "I feel for you..."

When the final orders came... the limit of endurance had indeed been reached. Battalions had fallen from an average strength of nearly seven hundred to the average of barely five hundred...

On the Western Front, it fitted uneasily into more conventional military territory. At the time of Dyett's trial, the division was in even greater turmoil than normal...

The trenches had been planned by a short-sighted fool and destroyed by a watchful enemy... in the firing aid support lines men could only stand and freeze in the mud...

But it seems clear that he was the victim of tainted evidence. One officer who laid the complaint against him was universally disliked...

There remain far too many which must surely have aroused the pity of their comrades and distaste for such apparently indiscriminate punishment...

In 1930, after a tortuous path through the political machinery, legislation was passed which made treachery and mutiny the only military offences punishable with death...

One of the most graphic descriptions of an execution on the Western Front was given by Dr. M. S. Ester who served as a medical officer in the Royal Army Medical Corps...

"I wondered at the time: 'What on earth will happen if they miss him and they don't kill him completely?'"

For The Sake of Example will be published by Leo Cooper in association with Secker & Warburg, price £8.95.

against him was universally disliked. Commander Dyett later told his family that the man had fallen off with Edwin when Dyett caught him sneaking women back to the barracks at Blandford, Dorset...

After the order for Dyett's execution was confirmed - in the face of a recommendation for mercy on two counts, his youth and inexperience...

"I had only time to glance over them... but my hasty perusal sufficed to disclose who the witnesses for the prosecution were, and from that moment I resolved to shun them both, for one of them was none other than the Petty Officer who shaped so badly in an earlier campaign..."

Macmillan wondered if Dyett was the first martyr to the clamour for the ranks for an example to be made of an officer for desertion, a clamour, he acknowledged, which was totally justified.

"If however, they were forced to act why did they select a mere boy for their first victim? It was obvious that the lad had, for one of them was to control men before they had learned to control himself..."

The night before his execution, Dyett wrote to his mother: "My sorrow is for the trouble I have caused you and dad. I feel for you so much and I am sorry for bringing dishonour upon you all..."

The battalion chaplain, who witnessed the execution by firing squad, later wrote to Dyett's family to tell them of the burial. "I accompanied his body in an ambulance-car several miles away to a beautiful little cemetery, near a small town quite close to the sea..."

Dyett's death was later taken up by Herbie Bottomley in his magazine John Bull, anonymously and somewhat sentimentally. A.P. Herbert, an adjutant in another 189th brigade unit who knew most of the details of the Dyett case...

Herbert's book in which the central character is called Harry Penrose, ends with the words: "That is the gist of it; that my friend Harry was shot for cowardice - and he was one of the bravest men I ever knew..."

The public concern which followed Herbert's book and Bottomley's revelations eventually changed the law on military executions. But this brought no comfort to the Dyett family.

Edmund Akenhead A little logic with the logodaedali

Fine words may butter no parsnips, but words in general provide bread and butter for those harmless drudges...

How about a new "usage label" to join (colloq), (slang), (joc), (derog) and (vulg) in the form of (cwp) for "crossword puzzles"?

In addition to such well-known ones as "Honor est a Nilo" for "Horatio Nelson" and "Flit on, cheering angel" for "Florence Nightingale"...

Throughout the years of the crossword championship competitors have known that the dictionaries I have relied on have been the Concise Oxford and the Chambers 20th Century...

The National Final of the Collins Dictionary-Times Crossword Championship takes place at the Park Lane Hotel, London, on Sunday September 4...

It is planned to fill in spare moments between the four main puzzle sessions. The entry fee will also cover light refreshments...

The author is Crossword Editor of The Times. He retires this autumn after 18 years.

Peter Nichols A new view from the rectory

From Clew to Heaven the beacon burns. The shires have seen it plain. From north to south the sign returns And beacons burn again...

To pass their tests at Clew. "I trust," said Jack, "they fright the Hun For, God, they frighten me!"

"No 'Tasr', said I, "nor Romanov Luts for Ludlow Town; Nay, tis the likes of Andropov Would bring all England down..."

"Our land's an aircraft carrier From Looe to Aberdeens - Below docks Hawk and Harrier, Above a country scene."

And now he smote his forehead, Did simple-minded Jack: "Then tis but Yankee warhead That makes us fear attack!"

This fighter blew off poor Jack's hat, It frightened even me. Said he "While we've got friends like that We need no enemy."

find that in other dictionaries in which to find (for instance) "buttercup" you have to peruse the paragraph under "butter".

Some dictionaries are created almost exclusively for crossword solvers and compilers. Such a one is The Anagram Dictionary by Michael Carl...

John Sykes, champion champion Talking of giants, among the 19 other finalists whom Tony Sever, the reigning champion since 1981...

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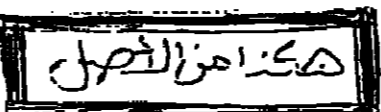
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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE SOVIET CHALLENGE: III

A realistic assessment of Moscow's policies is the first step towards organizing a coherent defence. The need for an adequate military budget is generally acknowledged, even if the precise level and distribution of expenditure is hotly debated.

effective counter-measures become clear. It makes little sense to spend the country's wealth on weapons of mass destruction which, as deterrents, it is hoped never to use, while simultaneously trying to economize by reducing the educational budget for Russian studies or cutting the external services of the BBC.

distorted Soviet broadcasting on Northern Ireland. Western society thrives on open debate, while the Soviet leadership fears all free discussion. Coordination of military defence has largely been achieved through Nato, but there is little sign of a coherent policy on economic matters.

THE ENGLISHNESS OF KUNSTGESCHICHTE

Hitler's bombers destroyed many buildings England would like still to have. But Hitler's Jew-baiters gave England a man who has taught us to read those that remain, and those that have sprung up since, with a fresh and accurate eye.

on the vernacular of the rambling English countryside, an ominous collision. But whether the method relented or the material pulled itself together, the outcome is a perfect blend and a source of unending pleasure.

him on the subject of the little church of St Mary at Lawton in Essex. He is standing in the fourteenth-century chancel.

Latvian nationalism From Mr. Andrius Dubrovskis Sir, Nationalism is "the most powerful chemical solvent" which is going to bring the Soviet Union crashing down in ruins, writes Mr. Bernard Levin in his article on Soviet Latvia (August 9).

Soviet power here in 1940," he said. "We restored it. We proclaimed the Soviet Republic of Latvia in 1918. That puts a slightly different perspective on Mr. Levin's assertions of a Soviet seizure of Latvia in 1940 (not 1941).

especially at the very demanding A level. In no way can time be spared for general class teaching by these specialists. Who, therefore, will teach these so-called economic "facts of life"?

Familiar ring of empire building

From Mr. Matthew Parris, MP for Derbyshire West (Conservative). Sir, It is amusing to run through today's leading article ("The Soviet Challenge" August 18) reading "1883" for "1983" and "The British Empire" for "The Soviet Union".

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

When speed limits fail to save lives

From Dr Robert Reid Sir, How effective is your reported reduction (August 15) in the 70 mph speed limit for coaches likely to be? Most modern vehicles can and do travel on motorways at speeds far greater than the law allows.

already exists which monitors the time a driver spends at the wheel, and there is no good reason why another should not monitor speed. Until a system can be put into operation which succeeds in rigorously fixing a limit on the speed of heavy vehicles a new national value will be ineffective as the present one and the carnage will continue.

Treating people - and the community

From the Chairman of the Chiropractic Advancement Association. Sir, My association, which represents the interests of chiropractic patients, welcomes the BMA's inquiry into alternative forms of health treatment and shares its concern about some of the claims made and methods used by para-medical practitioners.

alternative treatments for disease which contrast with the ungenerous attitude of much of the medical world to such alternatives. Another fast-growing dimension to health care which often provokes a similarly hostile reaction from the medical profession is community health.

Loophole in Act

From Mr Toby Eckersley Sir, Lord Harris of Greenwich (feature, August 9) complains about Islington Council's abuse of its powers in granting monies to a co-operative to engage in producing a newspaper favouring the council's political views, and accuses the Government of opening a loophole for this expenditure. His concern is academic.

Computerized markets

From Mr R. S. Musgrave Sir, I second your suggestion (August 10) that the Met Office and British Telecom come together to provide a weather information service that is paid for via the telephone bill. But British Telecom should do the same for anyone wanting to provide information for a fee over the phone.

LSO's programming

From the Chairman of The London Symphony Orchestra. Sir, Having just returned from a highly successful visit to the Salzburg Festival it is with some dismay that we hear from Mr Bryan Appleby, who says that we could be responsible for "radical upheaval" and "profound consequences" in the serious music industry as a result of our current negotiations with The Barbican Centre about our future artistic policy in our home in the City of London.

Salmon in danger

From Mr T. D. Thompson Sir, Mr E. J. Lipscombe's letter on Scottish salmon stocks (August 12) calls for quick and decisive action by the new Minister of State at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. He does not mention the Secretary of State for Scotland (equally new) within whose authority decisions affecting Scottish salmon stocks are made.

Computerized markets

For example, placing a small ad in a newspaper and ploughing through columns of such ads is a very inefficient method of matching buyer and seller compared to the speed with which a computer can do the job. But computerized markets like this will not really come into their own until there is an equally cheap method for information seekers to pay the information provider that is by crediting the telephone account of one and debiting that of the other.

Dover's Powder

From Mr C. B. Perry Sir, Philip Howard ("Elbow room for doctors", August 9) is hardly fair to Dr Thomas Dover. Dover never claimed to have treated Sydenham for smallpox. On the contrary, in his book, The Ancient Physician's Legacy to his Country, first published in 1732, he states (pages 119-120) that Sydenham treated him for smallpox and that the treatment he received, and which he recommends, consisted of oil of vitriol (sulphuric acid) but of 12 bottles of small-beer (probably very different from our beer) acidulated with spirit of vitriol every 24 hours.

Burton's tomb

From the Rev James Tolhurst Sir, A recent correspondent (July 6) expressed concern about the condition of the Burton mausoleum in our cemetery, which receives its fair share of visitors due to its unusual design. It ought to be pointed out that this is a private cemetery which was used by many leading Catholic families in the last century and that our policy has been to allow free access without charge, including guide where required. (The church contains a memorial window to Sir Richard Burton, which many visitors miss).

Manicheism on Mexico

From the Mexican Ambassador Sir, Not without considerable surprise I found your paper indulging in undisguised manicheism (leader, August 13). Everything that my Government is doing deserves your editorial wrath. Our Central American policy needs no justification. Regardless that many European countries including Great Britain have supported it, you blatantly affirm that Mexico's stand is shortsighted and dangerous. Undeterred by history, you vigorously wave the domino theory as if a country with the profound culture of Mexico could not rely on its manifold spiritual values.

Pure bunkum

From Mr Kevin Redpath Sir, An item you purchased today, contained the following cryptic code of additives: E102, E127, E202, E282, E321, E332, E407, E471, E472a and E472c. Does this indicate a slight decline in the sensitivity of the British palate? I remain, Sir, yours faithfully, KEVIN REDPATH, Chingaita, Glastonbury, Somerset.

Quality of teaching

From Mr J. R. Northeast Sir, There can be no disputing the message that will arise from the Secretary of State for Education's latest intentions. The report from your Education Correspondent (August 11) is very disturbing to those in the sharp end of school operation. Presumably, very large schools such as this one commensurate larger and more varied resources than others. Nevertheless, the economics department here is already run off its feet with very large classes,

Manicheism on Mexico

Third World relies, or the catastrophic rise in interest rates, Mexico would have easily avoided its present financial straits. All the blame for the "wet-backs" is also put on Mexico. Nothing is said about the unprovoked and unjust commercial boycott of Mexican products which has caused further unemployment; nor about the constant refusal of the US government legally to protect the basic human rights of foreign workmen. And the faulty situation remains, and my compatriots continue to be wilfully and unmercifully exploited.

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THE ARTS

Concerts

BBCSO/Howarth
Albert Hall/Radio 3

The first half of Thursday's Prom, long though it was, showed mastery design in projecting us in stages out of the suffocation of a heatwave Albert Hall. First there was a jaunty down the road to Ham-

marath, for Holst's eponymous prelude and scherzo in its original scoring for military band.

After this it was out into the country to hear Vaughan Williams's *Lark Ascending*, and to hear the bird indeed in Iona Brown's beautiful playing of the violin solo. There was the feel of feather in the touch of her bow, something perfectly formed and soft, yet very present, and her aerial phrasing was alive and right in every detail, not least the personal addition to a glissando to prove one was not imagining it all.

Then, mounting in orchestral size, duration and every other dimension, the concert moved from an idealized Norfolk to an idealized everywhere in David Lumsdaine's *Hagoromo*. This was commissioned by the BBC and first played by its symphony orchestra in Paris six years ago, but somehow it had never happened in Britain before, which has been very quite some years indeed, not for performance of Peter Maxwell Davies's *A Mirror of Whiteness Light*, have I heard a new orchestral piece so stunning and so rich in new experience.

The only thing wrong with it is its ugly title, borrowed from a nob play that provided some

initial stimulus. In the play, according to Lumsdaine, an angel dances for two fishermen and reveals to them the beauty of the natural world.

What happens in the composition is that the orchestra is made to dance, and to reveal, for itself and for its audience, its own beauty in a thousand new colours and shapes. There are sheets of string and wind tone dappled with pitched percussion as a Klint is dappled with gold. There are tangled, tendrilled growths in the large woodwind ensemble, distant summonses from muted trumpets, glittering cascades from a body of seven metallophones and xylophones.

There are also two features that keep the work from being the empty self-indulgent fantasy all this might imply. The first is that Lumsdaine's imaginary landscape has a searching, critical human presence, noticeable at moments of aggression to the drums or more generally in the angular motifs. The second is that *Hagoromo* follows very much its own course.

With these materials Lumsdaine could easily have created a much more "successful" piece: the boos mixed with the cheers at the end were a measure of his achievement in avoiding any resounding rhetoric in favour of huge harmonic movements that simply disappear into the background. They are unlikely to be better played than they were here by the BBC SO under Eigar Howarth, but they will surely be emerging again soon.

Paul Griffiths

CBSO/Rattle
Festival Hall

Simon Rattle set out on Thursday to bring his orchestra's Sibelius cycle to London and South Bank Summer Music; and he set out right at the stark, dark heart of the of the composer with the Fourth Symphony.

Only an orchestra with the music of Sibelius so deep under its skin as the City of Birmingham Symphony (the cycle was recently performed by it at the Warwick Arts Centre) could have penetrated that heart so deeply. Each solo part had been sified to a weight and density perfectly to articulate each raw line, and then blended in patterns of texture and harmonic movement which can still deeply shock the system.

It was Sibelius's high regard for Berlioz that came to mind in the last movement - from the first searing violin phrase to the mocking case of the woodwind flurries, a caprice written with the point of a needle if ever there was one.

The other symphony of the evening, about the same length but with twice as many notes, was No 1 in E minor; the second and third follow on Sunday. Its no less extraordinary beginning seemed folded in one long gesture to the first great fortissimo chord; and it was Rattle's ability to pace, modify and control each climax throughout the work that gave

this performance so much of its draining intensity.

To single out any section of an orchestra in any form as the CBSO may seem perverse; but it was a rare pleasure to hear a body of strings freed to let the score speak through them rather than vice versa - whether brushing the second movement into life or biting into the finale's surging momentum.

Rather like a Russian doll, a second concert was hidden inside what was already quite enough to digest for one evening. But, unlike the doll, Jesse Norman's orchestral song recital was by no means the next size down.

Three Strauss songs of rest, including a "Wiegenlied" remarkable for its sustained mezzo voce, moulded exquisitely by a barely perceptible rubato of solo instrument, were framed by two exultant poems of praise: "Zueignung" and "Cécile", in place of the advertised *Four Last Songs*.

Miss Norman's performing presence is happily relaxing once again into an unobtrusive, minutely integrated unity of sound and movement, and nowhere more tellingly than in her Ravel *Schérazade*. Every inflection, allusion, favour and scene of those invisible cities was marked with a vocal line translucent enough to work in a perfect expressive partnership with the CBSO's refined shaping of Ravel's score.

Hilary Finch

Opera

Rigoletto
Coliseum

New York weather outside, New York inside the Coliseum, with a montage of sleazy bars, madcap rivalries, a based romance from *West Side Story* and dingy plotted murder from *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, B-movie stories and twisted characters, all sewn together by the ingenious surgical skill of Jonathan Miller, and - unaccountably - all set to music by Giuseppe Verdi a century ago.

Miller's *Rigoletto* is back and brilliantly effective both as melodrama and music. Whether Miller's transformation makes the opera more telling remains a

moot point - betrayal and double-crossing is after all the everyday expectation in this set-up - but I had not realized from previous reports quite how tellingly designed the show is by Patrick Robertson and Rosemary Verec and how well lit in this revival by Roger Frith.

New to the cast is Helen Field, a Gilda from Opera North making her debut here, though one could not have guessed that from the way her tiny, frail figure fits like a glove into every scene; the fine, warm voice may not yet be perfectly controlled but every note is acted through, and her ensembles both with the Duke and with Rigoletto had a rare unanimity of purpose.

Sean Rea's Sparafucile makes a less potent impression than he should, though it is soundly sung; Shelsigh Squires' Giovanna, also new to the cast, has yet to find a firmness of characterization and voice. But Arthur Davis' "Duke" has the strident voice to match his character (if he can restrain a couple of Michael Palin mannerisms) and John Rawnsley's Rigoletto, a magnificent Miller-inspired portrayal of emotional and physical bitterness, is searing. Mark Elder conducts vigorously, and the orchestra compares favourably (as Ernest Newman once put it) with those of the New York picture houses.

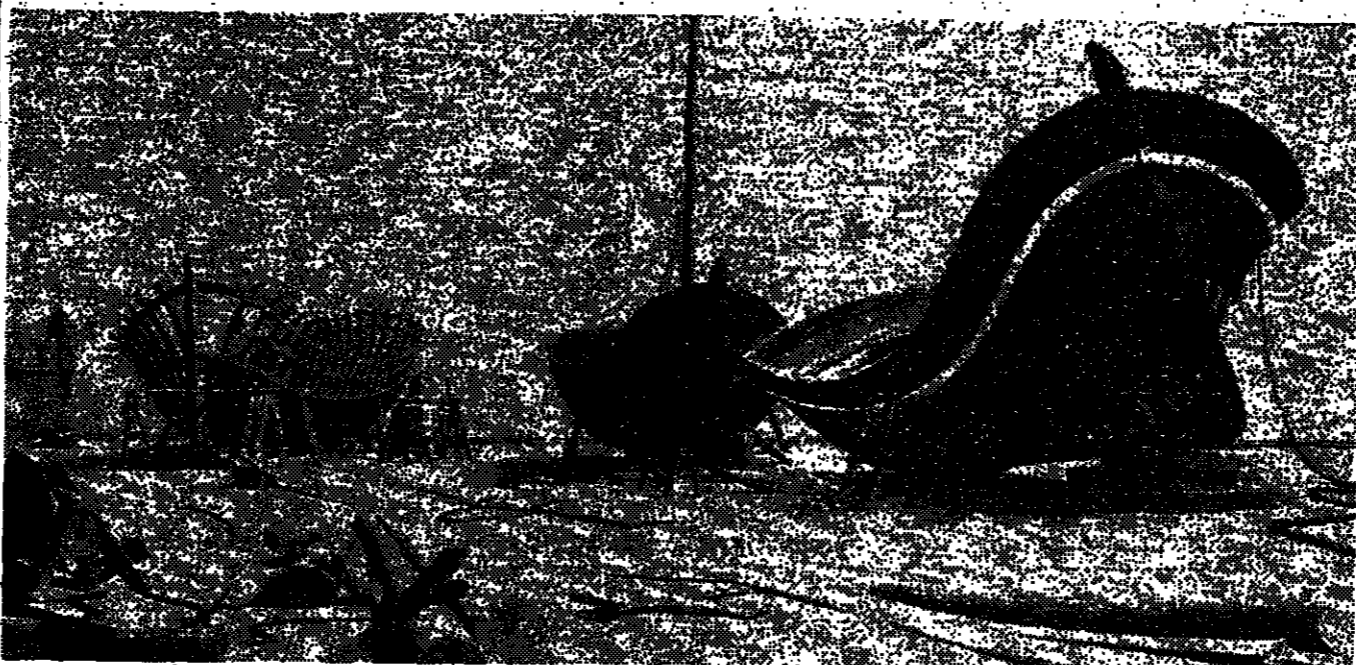
Nicholas Kenyon

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Galleries

Oh for something slightly different



Reaches and the objects normally found on them - "Shipbuilding at Peniche" (1948 - section)

A Timeless Journey:
Tristram Hillier, RA
Royal Academy

Most cinema films are diminished by being seen on television, but a few are, surprisingly, improved. In much the same way, most paintings lose in reproduction, but there are a few which are actually flattered by the process. Those of Dali, for one; but also, it would seem, those of Tristram Hillier, a comprehensive collection of whose work is now in the Diploma Galleries of the Royal Academy under the title *A*

Timeless Journey (until September 18, after which the show goes to Hull and Preston).

Tristram Hillier died earlier this year, at the age of 78. He was always a quiet painter, working over and over a few pet themes: beaches and the objects normally found on them; the English countryside on a sunny day in winter; with bare branches outlined against an eggshell blue sky.

As this memorial show makes clear to us, he hit his stride early on, and never really broke it thereafter. In the very earliest paintings, such as *Nudes in Bedroom* of 1929, we can see the possibility of other lines of

development, a faint hint that he might, had he wished, have become Ceri Richards instead. But by the early 1930s he had settled on the hard finish, the crystalline clarity of light which bathes his landscapes and still-lives, and never seemed tempted to modify his technique subsequently. His subject matter did change slightly. At first he went in for obviously bizarre juxtapositions of objects which made his surrealist affiliations evident, but later the surrealistic side of the content was submerging or at least made to seem accidental.

This slight change of emphasis apart, there is little to

distinguish a Hillier of the late 1960s from one of the early 1930s. This does undoubtedly give a certain air of sameness to the whole show; one comes to long for something slightly different. And yet, with the recent Algron Newton show, for example, where just the same strictures ought to have applied, Newton's minor variations on the same stucco-in-the-sunset views always retained their magic. There is astonishingly little magic in Hillier; the deliberately out-and-out manner all too often produces a rather flat, prosaic result.

John Russell Taylor

Television

Comic Roots (BBC 1)

was a sunny, summery little programme about a sunny and quintessentially summery little chap, Billy Dainty (and how pleasant to meet him) seems recognizable everywhere by an incredulous smile under mobile black brows, a voice with a Frankie Howerd rasp, and irredeemably comic legs. With a fine bouquet of ancient snaps and the bare minimum of mawkish revisiting ("This was me mother's shop") he led us generally up the long road from being the only boy in a troupe of Dancing Babes to being

profiled at peak viewing time.

Billy had, and has, a sister (and how pleasant to meet her) now called Betty Reeves. Meeting them at 48 felt very much as it must have done at eight: the bright-eyed pair in the early pictures looked just as knowing as the bright-eyed adults who sang "My Old Dutch" and other pub favourites by the piano in the studio. Together they headed for dancing lessons in London during the Blitz; together they went to RADA; their partnership was only sundered by a more serious one when Billy

landed the part of Asbestos the Dancing Donkey's back legs in *Mother Goose*.

The high-lights of the programme all concerned the reuniting of legs. First we went back to Billy's old tap-dancing teacher in Birmingham to watch him hoof it once more with a brand-new row of Lohits. Then Asbestos was reassembled with his original components and found to be in perfect working order. Unlike most stage donkeys, this one was wired for sound: the interior commentary as the lower limbs cavorted and occasionally collapsed shed

lucid light on a generally forgotten nether world.

We also met Billy in his guise as a Black Country Hamlet ("Why not? Shakespeare must have spoken like that"), and Billy acting an actor doing an audition. "This is an impression of Joseph Cotten chasing Orson Welles through the sewers in *The Third Man*". Terrible, said a watching Louis Benjamin, Chief Executive of Stoll Moss Empires (for it was he). But you wrote the gag, said Billy. And of course he had.

Michael Church

WEEKEND CHOICE

Clive of India (tonight, Channel 4, 7.30)

Kenneth Griffith's remorselessly personal view of the imperialist (a word Mr Griffith can hardly utter without a twist of the embedded knife), is everything considered, a surprisingly favourable summary. In fact, once that sassy bit of double-dealing involving Clive and the Bengali trader Omichund is got out of the way, the acid is poured

cratic Welshman. Clive of India, vigorously directed by Michel Pearce with many a telling visual image, is more self-indulgent than Mr Griffith's previous film about Thomas Paine, but there is the same stimulating feeling of total immersion in the subject matter.

Henry Moore, just turned 85, is still hard at it, is still looking good - as you can see in *The Last Interviews* (tomorrow, BBC 2, 8.15 pm) - and sounding lively. At the more artistic level, it says much for the sculptor and for Bernard Levin that, though they discuss in some detail the most tactile of the visual arts, they manage to sustain their fascinating half-hour with words alone. No inserted pictures, and only the brief handling of the skull of a young sheep.

Mr Moore has now reached the age and position of eminence where, without fear of provoking a national storm, he can say that "Michelangelo worked harder than any British miner ever toiled".

Radio highlight: Fat Man on a Roman Road (tomorrow, Radio 4, 6.15 pm), in which Tom Vernon, the two-wheeled, twentieth-century George Borrow, begins cycling from Exeter to Edinburgh, is flanked with colourful Veronisms such as the nightjar's sounding like "the ghost of a sewing machine", and the river mud that "sings to itself". A treat for the mind and ear, and a big boost for the "Get on your bike", lobby.

Peter Davalle

Theatre

City Whispers
Man in the Moon

Down the other end of the King's Road, from the Royal Court, where it forms one of the most successful parts of the Young People's Theatre Scheme, the Activists Youth Theatre is playing this amusing little collage of city scenes seen through young eyes. Scripted by the company itself from improvisation and interviews, it is brief and unpretentious, but also pointedly written, authentic and most enjoyable.

Job-hopping, scrounging, getting stopped by the police, invitation to a Walkhamstow party from boys you met in the 25 bus queue: ordinary experience comes up fresh in dramatic terms and, if the kids get used to looking at day-to-day life with a playwright's eye, who knows what may get written?

dence, pinching the bottoms of men they fancy and feigning illness in Earl's Court Road to beg cab fares which are saved to go towards their long-planned first parachute jump.

Down (Kieran Sonr), as the sort of dizzy picture impossible things happen to, stops the show with a hilarious account of a train journey when two blind men insisted on selling her a vast consignment of corn on the cob.

Gentle black Derek (Eddie Nestor) is relieved of his jewelry in the smoothest, non-violent mugging ever, but finds love instead and is ready as Victoria with a mugshot of Barcardi to greet the girls after their parachuting debut - yes, they do make it in the end, with Linda jubilantly crying "I fell out of the bloody sky today. And I'm still here!" And survival is just what it has been about all along. Gill Beadle directs, with a discipline that does not lose an ounce of the cast's creativity and zest.

Anthony Masters

Radio

Capital chance

Sometimes, as I stare in bewilderment at the cheese counter in my local supermarket, it occurs to me that the impression of immense and significant variety is quite illusory. The stuff is all cheese; the differences are marginal. I feel a bit like that when peering at the competing submissions for the next London and General Entertainment Radio Franchise put up by the sitting tenant, Capital, and its only rival, Metropolitan Radio Ltd. Whatever we end up with will not sound shatteringly different from what we are hearing now. People just say it will.

But wait! Did I say "only rival"? There is in fact a third, Richard Hilton's Radio A2Z, but as his solitary proposal is the issue of 75,000 £30 shares at the rate of not more than one share an applicant (each of "whom" presumably have, as an equal say in the station's policies and programming which would be decided at meetings in Wembley Stadium) you will see that Mr Hilton is to the handing-out of shares as Screaming Lord Sutch is to parliamentary elections. The electorate - in this case the IBA - may feel obliged to look at him, but not for very long.

Both the major submissions make the assumption that local radio, in the sense in which it exists in the country, is a meaningful notion for a conglomeration as big and as fragmented as London. Capital sees itself as "a forum for London" with its listeners "sharing news and expressing their views via phone-ins". Metropolitan writes of a "rounded service reflecting the make-up, the interests and the aspirations of the total potential audience". Neither Capital nor LBC has actually been able to provide this in the last 10 years - in fact, one thing that always strikes me about LBC's early morning sequence AM is that it actually suggests less sense of community than Radio 4's national Today. There is really no reason to believe that anyone is going to be able to do better, at least under the present arrangement.

If I had to sum up the rather similar impression given by each contender's programme intentions, I'd say that Capital would continue to sound more like Radio 1 with glances in the direction of Radios 2 and 4, while Metropolitan, if we ever hear it, will sound more like Radio 2 with glances in the direction of Radios 1 and 4.

The shift in emphasis proposed by Metropolitan is to correct what it sees as imbalances in Capital's output by which it has attracted the young, mainly male listener, but has lost the over-35s and the girls. In so far as I can make any comment on this matter, it is to say the Metropolitan's assessment is confirmed by the behaviour of my aging children who, with their friends, were once avid Capitalists, but now at 27 and 26 respectively regard the station's music and chat output as intolerable ("boring, repetitive, condescending") for more than an hour a day. My guess is, that Metropolitan, at least in its first excess of enthusiasm, would deliver something a bit more varied, a bit more like mixed programming than Capital, although its assertion that it will be "offering, perhaps for the first time, a genuinely attractive alternative to all, or any of the various, BBC services" is going to take some selling. Particularly in the light of its restrained commitment to radio drama and documentary.

Capital, not surprisingly, does not dwell on its audience problems, but concentrates on achievements which, when you see them added up, are not inconsiderable - notably in the fields of social action and sponsorship. These may have little to do with broadcasting skills as such, but they look good on an application - and perhaps that is right. Anyway, Capital in this and "offering" respects does have the immense advantage of actually having saleable wares to show, whereas Metropolitan's are all in the intention. It may be here and there a better intention, but will it be enough to sway the IBA, especially when it considers what is probably the most important consideration of the lot money?

As if in recognition of this, Metropolitan declares, with the air of a man showing a formidable but not necessarily unshakable hand, that it could run the franchise at a profit (much of which would go to the IBA) way in excess of Capital's £6.2m against £2.5m in the first year. But Capital is already by far the most profitable of the IBA flock. Would you, if you were the IBA, knowingly garrote a golden goose on the unproven assertion of her rival that she could lay an egg of more than twice the size?

David Wade

KOO STARK SNAPS BACK

One of the world's most photographed women has a new hobby. She's taking pictures of the press photographers who hound her night and day.



And they don't like it because they feel that it's an invasion of their privacy.

You can see a selection of Koo Stark's pictures exclusively in this week's Sunday Times Magazine.

You can also read, in her own words, how she has to plan her evenings like military operations.

Sooner or later something was bound to snap. It turned out to be Koo Stark's camera.

PICTURES BY KOO STARK - A SUNDAY TIMES WORLD EXCLUSIVE.

MARKET REPORT

Powell Duffryn hits peak

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin, Aug 15. Dealings end, Sept 2. Contango Day, Sept 5. Settlement Day, Sept 12.

The shares of Powell Duffryn hit a new peak yesterday of 268p as speculative money moved from BET to the company as the next potential bid target. Oil group Ultramar was widely thought to be a buyer and reports of strategic share stakes being built up abounded.

Mr David Hubbard, Powell Duffryn finance director, said the whole thing had grown out of all proportion. First, no large share stakes had appeared in the register apart from the Kuwaiti 8 per cent stake.

He added: "Now that consolidation is complete, we will come off our profits plateau and

we expect to move onward and upwards. We have not received any approaches in any form."

The Kuwaiti Investment Office comes up again with the announcement that it has increased its stake to 13 per cent in insurance brokers Hoog Robinson. That kept Hoog shares steady at the former level of 108p.

Games-maker John Waddington shares fell 2p to 229p as doubts arose over the success of BPC's takeover attempt. The offer closes on Tuesday when the exact position will become clearer.

BPC chairman, Mr Robert Maxwell, said acceptance had been coming in satisfactorily and he claimed the market had got it wrong. Institutional shareholders with an interest of 46 per cent have allegedly claimed they do not intend accepting the bid.

Elsewhere, nervousness over the next set of United States money supply figures - expected to be poor - caused buyers to hold off before the weekend. The FT 30 share index fell from yesterday's peak by 3.2 points to 735.7.

Stylo, formerly Stylo shoes, remained a whisker below its 130p peak for the year ahead of next month's special shareholders' meeting to decide if the company, controlled by the Ziff family, can buy back its own shares. The market says the shares are really worth 84p, but so far Stylo is saying nothing.

Once again American favourites ICI, down 5p to 536p, were the first to suffer. Other leaders registered losses of between 2p to 6p.

London Brick became the centre of takeover speculation yesterday as the idea arose that Tarmac may bid for the company. London shares firmed 3p to 84p. The idea is that once Tarmac has floated off its oil subsidiary, the money will be used to acquire London Brick.

Tarmac directors were not available yesterday for comment but they said earlier in the week that the oil float-off was reports figures next Wednesday when its intentions towards Istock Johnson - its bid was cleared last Wednesday - is expected to be announced.

Some poor company results caused an 18p loss to 280p for Wholesale Fittings while the rights issue announcement knocked 4p off Rockware at 25p. Waring & Gillow lost 7p to 95p on disappointing figures

while the poor performance from Cerah Thursday clipped another 3p off the shares to 60p. On a brighter note recent USM issues Scania gained 7p to 114p on news of two further United States acquisitions.

Hopes that Burton Group may yet acquire the John Collier and Richard Shops chains from Hanson Trust added 3p to Burton shares 336p.

The appointment of a new chairman and optimistic forecasts from the annual meeting added 3p to Distillers 228p.

Grindlays was a downward feature, falling 13p to 149p as the realization sank in that the bank is now virtually bid proof.

Associated Dairies fell 4p to 168p ahead of next month's profit figures while on the bid target for Charter Consolidated.

Wayne Lintott

RECENT ISSUES table with columns for Issue Name, Price, and Yield.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns for Fund Name, Price, and Yield.

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN table with columns for Country/Company, Price, and Yield.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES table with columns for Authority Name, Price, and Yield.

DOLLAR STOCKS table with columns for Company Name, Price, and Yield.

SHARES AND DISCOUNTS table with columns for Share Name, Price, and Yield.

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES table with columns for Company Name, Price, and Yield.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL table with columns for Company Name, Price, and Yield.

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THE TIMES 1000 1982/1983 The World's Top Companies. Includes a list of top companies and their market values.

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Sterling: Spot and Forward table with columns for Market rates and Forward rates.

Money Market Rates table with columns for Clearing Bank Rate, Treasury Bills, and Local Authority Bonds.

Other Markets table with columns for Australia, Bahrain, Finland, Greece, Hong Kong, India, etc.

Dollar Spot Rates table with columns for Ireland, Netherlands, Denmark, West Germany, Spain, etc.

Euro-Spot Deposits table with columns for 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months.

Gold table with columns for Gold price, Silver price, and Platinum price.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS table with columns for Trust Name, Price, and Yield.

INSURANCE table with columns for Insurance Company Name, Price, and Yield.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS table with columns for Trust Name, Price, and Yield.

PROPERTY table with columns for Property Name, Price, and Yield.

RUBBER table with columns for Rubber Company Name, Price, and Yield.

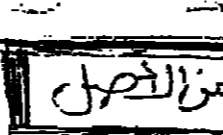
TEA table with columns for Tea Company Name, Price, and Yield.

MISCELLANEOUS table with columns for Miscellaneous Company Name, Price, and Yield.

UNLISTED SECURITIES table with columns for Unlisted Security Name, Price, and Yield.

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23 Travel: How to have a journey of a lifetime in Australia; Eating Out; your chance to win a Ford Sierra XR4i car

4 Values: The best of what to buy in Hampstead and Highgate; herbaceous borders in The Garden and Drink on mineral water

THE TIMES Saturday

5 Review: Video cassettes - a touch of comedy and how to amuse the children; Preview of Theatre and Galleries; Collecting

7,8 Critics' choice of Films, Dance and Music; Bridge; Chess; guide to the Edinburgh Festival and The Week Ahead

20-26 AUGUST 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Commoners who are Lords-in-waiting

From bankers to blacksmiths, carpenters to commuters, village cricket is the great leveller. John Parker visits Troon for the semi-final of a national contest with the prize a ticket to Lord's

Troon. Sixteen hundred souls housed in rows of little granite cottages built a century and more ago for the tin miners of Cornwall. Now there is 19 per cent unemployment typified by the derelict pitheads dotting the treeless landscape; but they have been inactive since the depression of the 1920s and kept so by the politicians and the microchip revolution. A church. A pub. And a cricket club.

Langleybury. A hamlet set in the lush Hertfordshire countryside just 23 miles from Charing Cross. Commuterland. Two hundred people live here, collected around a crossroads, a church, a pub. And a cricket club. I don't suppose either village would have known where to find the other on an Ordnance Survey map until a couple of weeks ago. But last Sunday Langleybury gathered its cricket bags and supporters and departed by air, coach, train and car some 340 miles to Cornwall for the semi-final round of the Whitbread National Village Cricket championships. Far away the Yorkshire village of Sessay was preparing in like manner to do battle with the invaders from Quarndon in Derbyshire.

The prize: the cricketer's dream, a place in the final at Lord's on Sunday, August 28. Troon have made the trek there three times since the competition began 11 years ago, and have come away winners each time. Langleybury have been close - losing semi-finalists three times already and now giving it a fourth go.

The two teams have never met, but Troon, for all their experience, are worried. They don't think the odds are in their favour. They have had an easy run through the seven matches of the competition so far, but they don't think they are quite the force they used to be.

Never mind, it's only a game, isn't it? As Gerald Penberthy, the Troon chairman, says to Dick White, the club treasurer. But his dark eyes tell you he



doesn't mean it, and that to Troon - and to thousands of other villages across the country - the game is a religion. On the way up to the trim field from the impressive clubhouse he tells the story: how the club was founded in 1875, its early successes drawing enthusiastic support from the villagers; how all the team, except one, came back from the 1914-18 trenches; how the club became socially and psychologically vital to the village through the slump of the 1920s and the 1930s, rescuing people on their Saturday afternoons from the misery of everyday life on the dole, and how it is performing the same service nowadays.

"How much would you say this clubhouse is worth?" he asks, pointing to the long, low building with its two bars, lounge and snooker room; comfortably, almost luxuriously, furnished. "Thirty, forty thousand?" his eyes flash again. "It cost us under 25,000. We did all the work ourselves. A local farmer gave us the land on condition we built within five years and included a proper snooker room. The old village room was falling to bits. We raised the cash and did it all well within the time. Then we used the profits from the bar to build the new pavilion; and the last thing we did was to put up the new scoreboard."

The scoreboard is indeed imposing, one which many a county ground would be proud of, and it is an object of interest to the Langleybury supporters already ringing the playing area with their cars and parking on the soft, brown grass. "Very professional," says a lady disapprovingly. "Professional" is the taboo word, and the Langleybury advance guard has already found out that two of Troon's leading players are



Scenes from the semi: Spectators, tea-makers and gladiators at the National Village Cricket championship semi-finals at Troon, Cornwall, and Sessay, Yorkshire

Weeding out the village greens

The National Village Cricket championship has been organized by The Cricketer magazine since 1972. The first sponsor was Haig Whisky, who promised a three-year run and stayed for six. Then Haig moved up-market to the club championship and Whitbread took over the sponsorship with equivalent success. It has run it ever since.

This year 570 village clubs paid the £10.50 entrance fee and the long trek to Lord's began late in April. The championship is organized by Findlay Rae, a retired civil servant whose love of cricket is exceeded only by his patience and ingenuity in bending his own rules to meet unexpected situations.

Rain is his biggest bugbear. This year's wet May and June caused hundreds of matches to be delayed or settled by various ingenious means. Officially the way to solve an abandoned game is for each man in the team to

howl one ball at three stumps, the most hits winning the game. But Findlay Rae turns a blind eye to the teams who settle matters over darts or even skittles, in the pub.

His favourite story is of the letter he received from a club secretary, responding to a complaint that one of his team was not eligible for the competition as he had not turned out the requisite number of times for the club.

"I can inform you," ran the reply, "that the player concerned has turned out for this club since the age of 16. From 11 to 16 he was the club's official scorer, and from six to 11 he put the numbers up on the scoreboard. Furthermore, writing as his parent and not as club secretary, I can assure you he was conceived in the pavilion."

This year's competition has produced its own crop of tales, among them that of the policeman fast bowler in a

Gloucestershire side who, waiting to catch a simple return hit, was knocked over by the opposing batsman. Naturally he appealed, and the batsman was given out.

"I suppose it's the first time a man's been given out for obstructing the police," he said reflectively. "Come to think of it, we could have had him for wilful damage after he went back and kicked a hole in the dressing room door."

This year's final is between Troon from Cornwall and Quarndon from Derbyshire, at Lord's tomorrow week. The match will begin at 2pm and will consist, like all the championship matches, of 40 overs a side. No bowler may exceed nine overs, and in the event of a tie the number of wickets lost is taken into account or, failing that, the scoring rate. Entrance to Lord's is free, and on past form between 7,000 and 10,000 spectators will turn up.

Palmer and Mike Hardy have the job of fighting back.

"Mike's a probation officer. Perhaps he can sort this one out," says Riddick with an attempt at humour. But the mood in the Langleybury dressing room is as black as it had been in Troon's. The gloom deepens as, at 23, Palmer swings mightily at Johns and Johnny Warren, with all the time in the world catches the skier effortlessly. So much for young nerves.

Now it is a battle of attrition. The score creeps up as slowly as had Troon's. Terry Carter begins to switch his bowlers around, and Steve Pedlar gets a ball to lift and leave the edge of Walford's bat for a comfortable wicketkeeper's catch. Forty-four for four off 19 overs. Steve Kitchen is brought on from the village end with his slow off-spinners to tempt the batsmen into rashness. Forty-four for four off 20 overs. Drinks, and animated discussion all round the ground. It is anybody's match.

Terry Carter makes an athletic swooping stop and comes racing off the field. "Split my pants," he grins, but he is a quick-change artist as well and he is back at the end of the over. Hardy, battling grimly, is on 21 and Martin Brown, fluently left-handed, has brought him up with three Gower-like fours. Langleybury are beginning to accelerate menacingly when Brian Carter whips a ball back from the boundary and with a one-handed, one-movement scoop James has the balls off to run out Hardy. Eighty-three for five becomes 83 for six off the next ball as Brown tries to drive Riddick over his head but only manages a slice into the safe hands of Terry Carter.

Now there is real tension round the field. A little girl

from Troon. Could this be the turning point?

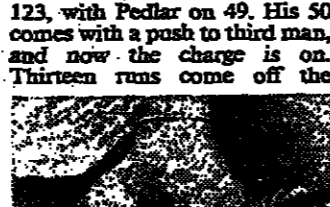
"But Dobner makes amends by stumping Kitchen. Up goes umpire Ford's finger, and that is 85 for four. In comes Johnny Warren, at 17 the baby of the team. Has he the temperament to withstand the tension? Second ball he is capped on the pads. Ringe appeal from 11 Langleybury players, backed by several hundred supporting throats. Langleybury are good at appealing. Umpire Ford shakes his head. Troon breath again.

But Pedlar strokes the next two balls into the covers and with the agile Warren makes second runs off each shot on poor throw-ins. Next delivery he moves down the pitch and drives the ball out of the ground over long-on to the crowd. It is the first time Troon have had anything to cheer. They let themselves go. In the dressing room Terry Carter gives a long sigh, but his hands haven't unclenched yet. Two more runs to put up the 100, and 12 off the over altogether.

After 35 overs the score is 123, with Pedlar on 49. His 50 comes with a push to third man, and now the charge is on. Thirteen runs come off the

board, Riddick plays the ball to guilley, sets off for a run, stops his partner in full flight and turns back, leaving Wood stranded. A classic case of "Yes. No. Sorry", the sort of thing Denis Compton used to indulge in. Fifteen for one.

Riddick, concentration shaken by his mistake, moves across his wicket to the very next ball and is bowled round his legs by Peter Johns. Two wickets in two balls. Another turning point? Now Simon



thirty-seventh over as the Langleybury fielding begins to come apart under the pressure of the speedy running of the Troon pair, and Warren, beginning to enjoy himself, weighs in with another agricultural four. Twelve off the thirty-eighth and another 12 off the thirty-ninth. Seven runs off the last over bring the total to 171 and Pedlar, run out off the last ball, comes in beaming to thunderous applause with 65 runs to his credit. "Boy! Warren is left with 32 not out and bruises from all the backslapping. Their stand is worth 86 runs in 11 overs. Yes, spontaneously spread in the pavilion, could well be called Troon's secret weapon, particularly if you are fielding second. But Gordon Riddick - tall, moustache-aided and confident - drives Howard James's first ball sweetly through the covers for four.

Wine Club advertisement for Effortless Wine. Features various wine selections like 'The Club's House White', 'The Club's Italian Dry White', 'The Club's French Dry White', 'The Club's House Red', 'The Club's Italian Red', and 'The Club's French Red'. Includes prices like £24.65 and £28.99 per case, and a contact form for ordering.

continued on page 3



Australia confirms your worst fears and answers your wildest dreams. The beaches are there for the taking but the outback or the teeming Barrier Reef provide a real challenge for the discerning visitor



Teeming trams: Melbourne's Collins Street and the Victorian Arts Centre, due for completion in 1984

An ocean of space where the earth curves as at sea



THE OPEN ROAD

Driving in Australia is a cliché except in central Sydney, which retains a section based, apparently, on goat tracks. Extricating my splendid white Falcon from the gridlocked centre of Melbourne was child's play. I had worked it all out the night before. First right on to Elizabeth Street. Watch out for trams. Fourth left into Victoria Street. Third right into Peel Street. Bear left onto the Flemington Road, follow the signs to Ballarat. Hereabouts the main highways divided and I took the wrong one, sweeping me on to Bendigo.

So I did what my wife always reproaches me for not doing. I stopped and consulted the map. If I turned off the double-track at Diggers Rest, a country road would take me through a little town called Melton and reunite me with the Ballarat road. All this came to pass: and it was a grand day for it.

Scattered, fleecy clouds moved across the sky. The far distance was blue. The road lay across a vast high plain of open ground broken by forest ("Kangaroo for 32km" warned a road sign) and here and there a village. I caught a glimpse of a Victorian Gothic church in dark grey and black stone, a garage, a takeaway and general store, lines of bungalows.

My route took me through 1,000 miles of the farming country of Victoria and New South Wales - west to Hamilton, north to Horsham and then eastward to Sydney, following, in reverse, the route of the explorers and settlers who had

now the King George V memorial park. The population rushed up to 40,000. Then mining the gold became too complicated and most of the population rushed away again, leaving behind some fine nineteenth-century colonial architecture in the style that these country towns are still quite rich in. The balconies run unbroken round the building, supported through ground and upper floors by slender iron columns that branch out at the top into delicate lacy ironwork.

The Vandenberg Hotel was such a place. Here were the odd 200 of Forbes' population of 8,200, pouring Foster's and Toobey's lager beer down their throats and shouting conversation over the uproar of a thundering juke-box. The men were dressed informally in singlets or T-shirts, "stubbies" (shorts) or "strides" (trousers), thick boots or thong sandals. In my linen jacket and trousers, shirt, socks and shoes, I must have stood out, to use a vivid Australian simile, like a one-legged man at an arse-kicking competition.

I wished, as on earlier trips down under, that someone could invent and promote a better informal hot climate dress for men. The drab stubbies do not belong. They are the sort of thing holiday campers in the north of England used to wear in the thirties when the sun came out. A hard fact is that hairy legs and pale skins, once tanned, need bright

Of formal knee socks and much beer

colours to display them. Yet the formal hot weather dress of Australian and New Zealand men, consisting of shorts, white full-length socks, polished shoes, white shirt, tie and light jacket, is extremely attractive. I wore it myself sometimes, and could not repress a start of gratification when I saw myself reflected in a shop window.

Before I left Forbes I took a walk through the park. There was more history here, as in all towns through all of Australia and New Zealand, in the names on the memorials of the young men who left them. Young men who went, no doubt, more as a high-spirited lark than as dedicated soldiers of the Empire, to fight in the Empire's wars and did not return.

In between the cities, Australians measure distances in hours, not miles. Traffic is sparse. "Narrandera 100km", said a sign outside Jerilderie, and exactly one hour later, the Falcon was rolling across the bridge over the wide Murrumbidgee river and along the wide, sunstruck main street of Narrandera, pop. 5,000.

It was Good Friday, Barney, the host of the Fig Tree Motel, explaining that it was one of the two places in town where you could get a drink without having to eat a meal. At 5.30pm, the portrait of a thriving and exuberant scene. Perhaps because there were lots



Bay of splendour: Sydney Harbour Bridge crowns a most beautiful city

Land of plenty with room at the top



SHEEP AND SKYSCRAPERS

In the Cricketers' Bar of the Windsor Hotel, Melbourne, I identified a source of the affection for Australia that I have felt for as many years as I can remember. It was the magic touch of the Australian Test sides of my boyhood, whose faces looked out of the rows of black and white group photographs on the walls. MacLaren, Armstrong, Macartney, Oldfield, Kippax, Grimmett, the boy-genius Bradman... I never saw any of them play, so my imagination was at liberty to construct heroes and a country that existed in the hero-worshipping boy's world.

Nor has the reality of three visits over 20 years chipped much off my affection for it. I love it for its triumph over its bad start. It gives me a lift to see what the country has achieved in the past 150 years; and if I had looked for the dramatic impressions of the latest and earliest I could not have picked better places than the Melbourne Regent and the Glenisla sheep station 200 miles west.

The Regent was formerly the Wentworth, which was pulled down and the new hotel built at a cost of \$AUS20m (about £180m), which makes it the most expensive building ever erected in Australia, exceeded in size only by the Sydney Opera House (and Ayers Rock). From the outside it resembled a gigantic hair-roller, and my room was on the forty-eighth floor of 50. I never expected to be on the forty-eighth floor of anything in Australia.

The Regent signifies Australia's place in the multi-national world of vast computerized language, business conglomerates, credit cards, and in-house television. I was given a vivid little snapshot of this world on the way to breakfast. A notice outside a room said: "No Entry: Function in progress." And young men wearing serious carrying little black briefcases, filled in and took seats. It was only ten to seven, but life was already earnest. I thought complacently about my investments in Australia.

It could be said that the Regent began at Glenisla, the homestead of Eric and Evie Barber, where I arrived a couple of days later, and that Glenisla began at Melbourne, for it was from there in the mid-1850s

who, it was supposed, nursed an unhappy love affair. After dinner we went into the sitting room where Eric showed us a collection of clay pipes found in the bottom of an old sheepwash, and played a couple of cylinders on a 1903 Edison Bell phonograph of Harry Lauder singing "Tipperary" and "Beautiful Sunday".

But this burst of inaction did not suit Eric. He took me out in his truck and tore along the road with a powerful torch plugged into the cigarette lighter to show me the night creatures, the kangaroos and foxes.

In the morning he drove me along a forest track to the fire look-out point on Mount Bepcha, from which you can see clearly how little of the forest has been cleared compared to the expense that remains. They call the cleared paddocks, as they call fields, are the size of golf courses. Today bulldozers pulling trees like teeth clear a patch in a few days. The Barbers' forebears took years, sawing each tree to stump level and lighting a fire round the stump.

The wildlife remains abundant. We put up several groups of kangaroo and emu. Eric chased them over the plain, roaring with laughter as though the sight was as fresh to him as to me. The kangaroos bounded surrealistically like animals from a dream. The emus raced along with necks stretched and vestigial wings pressed to their sides, looking comically like old ladies running for the bus with a shopping bag under each elbow.

Merinos, mutton and chores by the acre

Climate dictates the differences between a sheep station in Australia and New Zealand. With their annual 20m rainfall my New Zealand friends the Symes ran 1,250 sheep on 3,000 acres. The Barbers' 12,000 had just supported their 4,000 sheep during the drought that struck Victoria last summer, though they had had to bring in fodder by truck. They had just celebrated the first rain for 11 months, a fine drizzling of 2 1/2 in that had already given the earth the beginnings of fresh growth. So while the Symes' place was as green and neat as a corner of the Isle of Wight, the Barbers' colours were pale greens and the browns of the original forest.

I met my fellow-guests at dinner (roast sheep, vegetables, a splendid fruit pudding) before which Eric led us in a grace. "It is the custom of the house." The girl I had heard Eric refer to as Rita turned out to be an Austrian male kitchen designer named Rita; the others were a cavernous-voiced American investment counsellor and his wife, and a rather sad dark girl

Dreams: Australia's aborigines

forest, on the other side of a dried-out swamp, Eric showed me a lost road. The trees stood more thinly here, and in the earth I could see plainly the runs of wheelmarks, slightly sunken in the track.

Here was the road that the Cobb-coaches used to pound along on the journey between Melbourne and Adelaide. It was a strangely stirring sight. It needed very little work to conjure up the sounds of furious action, the cursing and whip-cracking, the sweating horses, the squeak and rattle of harness.

Sitting on the verandah after breakfast, enjoying the little flocks of cockatoos and crimson rosellas, the grey and pink galah parrots and such familiar birds as magpies and sparrows, I felt I wouldn't have objected to staying on for a year or so - as a guest, that is. I couldn't manage the chores, for despite the benefits that electricity pours into the countryside the life is strenuous.

Eric was taking it easy - he had just finished chopping logs and was hoeing the vegetable garden - but I don't recollect that I ever saw him or Evie doing just nothing. And it would not be enough to be willing, you had to be able - to change a tyre, replace a washer, clean a sparking, administer first aid, and a hundred things beside. The aromatic wood that burned at night in the sitting room, and fed the modern woodburning stove that Evie kept going because she liked the smell, came first from the gum trees; but it had to be picked up, carted home, left to dry for a year, and chopped up.

Although they could not be seen from Glenisla, two home-steads of equal size lay within a couple of miles, the properties broadening out from the buildings, like segments of cake. "If we had a crisis there'd be 20 to 30 people here in five minutes," said Eric. "Lonely? I'm only lonely in cities, where no one wants to talk to strangers."

The main Hamilton-Horsham road runs past the front entrance, bringing certain anxiety at times, I thought. As if on cue a big, shabby Holden turned into the yard and a dirty woman, followed by a large and grubby man, got out. Eric hurried to meet them. "I thought they'd be up," he said when he returned. "Ran out of petrol. I noticed them stop last night. Slept in the car by the road."

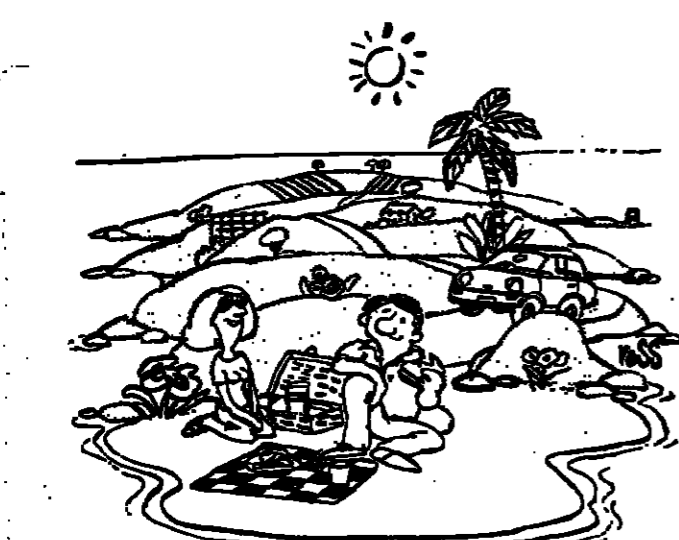
"Did it occur to you that they might be Bonnie and Clyde?" "Lord, no. Nothing like that ever happens here. Where would they get to? There are so few people round here the police would have them in the next town."

Perhaps the only snags are that one would have to eat too much sheep, and would inevitably grow hardened in one's dealings with them. Eric was clearly as good a fellow as ever walked, but it must be a long time since he had been able to consider sheep as sentient fellow creatures. He raised his eyebrows for wool and fattened the older ones for export. I wondered if it had ever bothered him that a good slice of his life was bought by these meek creatures who were shipped live to the Middle East for slaughter. It was one of those questions I wish I could have brought myself to ask.

The Europeans too have their ghosts. In another part of the

P.B.

Cradle of Conscience
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TRAVEL/2

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

EATING OUT

High and dry on a jumbo

For those attracted by the specialist shops in Values (overleaf) or just visiting, we investigate pub lunches in Hampstead and Highgate.

It would be stretching it to describe a journey round the pubs of Hampstead and Highgate as "crawling" - given the picturesque quality of the neighbourhoods, it would be more of an elegant sway. Yet as far as catering is concerned, it seems that the old restaurant law applies: "The more attractive the setting, the less effort need be taken."

Certainly the pub lunches offered on my tour were largely dominated by jumbo sausages, cheese salads and, as the blackboards describe them, "assorted quiches". The visitor, drawn to these areas by their history and village charm may welcome the progress of the Campaign for Real Ale, but will probably leave endorsing a Campaign for Real Food.

An honourable exception to this criticism is The King of Bohemia, a well-kept, wood-paneled house at the foot of Hampstead High Street. Cold lunches here are augmented by a range of excellent home-made pies served with vegetables (chicken and ham £1.60, steak and kidney £1.65, with spicy rissoles or fish and chips £1.50) as alternatives. This is also one of the few pubs to offer puddings (apple pie and ice cream £1.20), bland special such as chilli con carne (£1.30) or sweet and sour chicken (£1.35). There is also the ubiquitous jumbo sausage.

Moving up over the Heath towards Highgate, it is impossible to miss Jack Straw's Castle, a sprawling modern edifice that looks more like a coastguard's base than a pub. An upstairs canteen offers fixed-price, meat-based meals, while "Toby's Pantry" (a refrigerated display) on the ground floor offers the usual range of salads and a couple of hot daily dishes. Highgate itself has at least one winning entry with its own Flask, a large but attractive "coaching inn" with a wide, table-tiled forecourt and a tasteful, atmospheric maze of bars. There is also some imagination and effort in the kitchens, with samosas and home-made pizzas brightening the cold display. Hot dishes on

Stan Hey

- The King of Bohemia, Hampstead High Street, London NW3
The Flask, 14 Flask Walk, London NW3
The Holly Bush, 22 Holly Mount, London NW3
Jack Straw's Castle, North End Way, London NW3
The Flask, 77 West Hill, London N6
Prince of Wales, 53 Highgate High Street, London N6
Ye Olde Gate House, North Road, London N6



Ploughman's lunch: Familiar scenes now showing at the Holly Bush, Heath Street

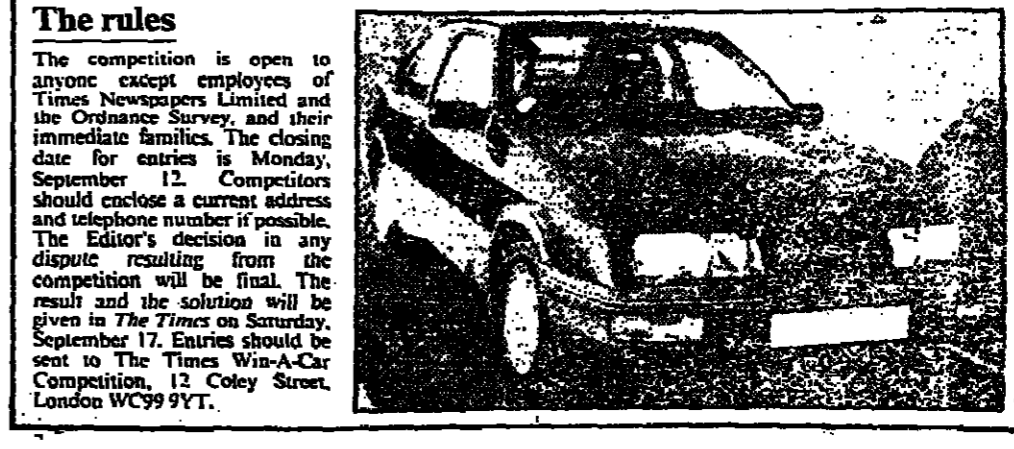
Village ticket to Lord's continued from page 1 holds up play for an agonizing minute as she trots behind the bowler's arm. At 92 for six, with 10 overs left, Langleybury are marginally ahead of the Troon at a striking rate, but they are beginning to run out of wickets. Paul Trussell, 17-year-old schoolboy, is in now, playing a similar role to that of Johnny Warren. Pedlar gives him a fast full-toss, and the big lad whacks it out of the ground for the biggest six of the day. Now he swings again, and Paul Dook, down at long leg, fails to judge the swirling ball. Groans and cheers mingle as

another tangle and Troon are on their way to Lord's again. And so to the bar. After the brief speeches, the presentations, the award of the new bat to man-of-the-match Scott Pedlar, the carpenter, the battle is fought all over again. New friends part, and many Langleybury folk will be at Lord's for the final to cheer on Troon when they meet Quarndon. And Brian Carter leads the singing until closing time. He will be going to London twice this year - once to Lord's and later to the Albert Hall with his fine tenor voice for a choir festival. But cricketer's only a game. Isn't it?

John Parker is the author of The Village Cricket Match (Wendlesham) and Test Times at Testville (Wendlesham)

THE TIMES WIN-A-CAR COMPETITION

In the summer, readers of The Times, and millions of other Britons, take to the road to enjoy the glories of the English countryside. For those with a keen eye for detail who wish to make their future journeys more enjoyable, here's a chance to win a Ford Sierra XR4i



IN THE OUTBACK

Life on the opal trail

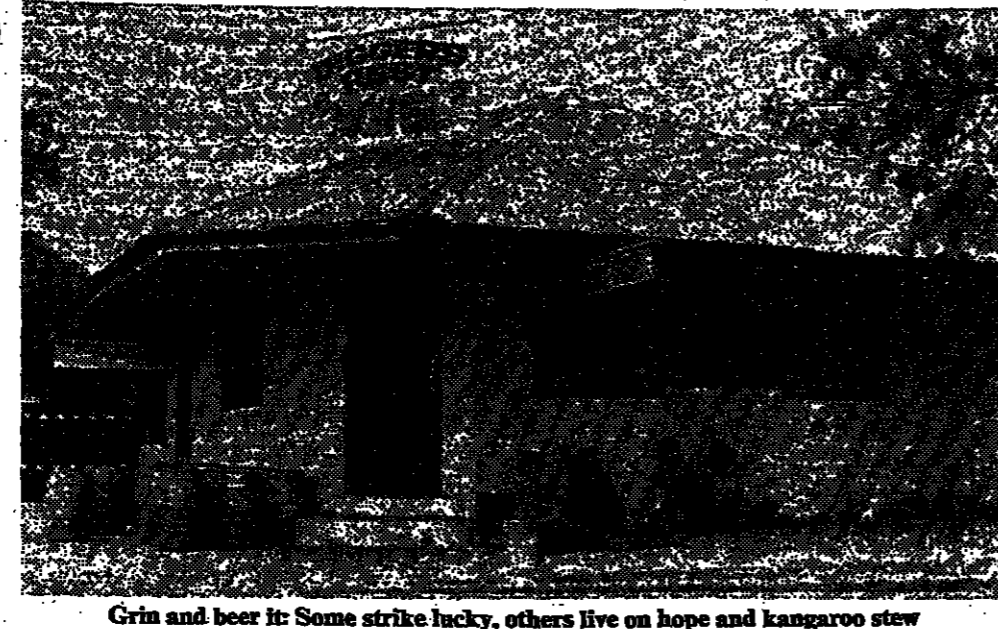
Most of us dream of living somewhere free of petty rules and regulations, somewhere you don't have to deal with bureaucrats if you want to build a house or start a business. A place where you can try to get rich quick and defy the odds by gambling on anything from premium bonds to football pools.

At Lightning Ridge in the Australian outback both these dreams can come true. About 400 miles from Sydney the ridge is a community of drifters and dreamers who come in search of wealth, and to discover an escape route from many of the pressures of the twentieth century.

It is by no means an idyll, resembling a sun-parched, glacial moraine more than a Garden of Eden. But it is the only place in the world where black opals have been discovered. The stones can be as valuable as gem-quality diamonds, but a great deal harder to find.

The technical difficulties in finding them and getting them out of the ground have meant that big international mining interests have never become involved. The field has remained open to independent prospectors who have been tramping Australia for the last 200 years.

Lightning Ridge is bad grazing land, where sheep only venture in times of extreme drought, so land owners are quite happy to encourage miners to explore beneath the earth. All they have to do is put down a \$400 (about £200) deposit (returnable when they leave the site safe and tidy), and pay a \$250 (\$125) annual registration fee for the mining rights to an area 50 metres square. Each person is allowed two claims, and most serious miners



Grim and beer it: Some strike lucky, others live on hope and kangaroo stew

work one claim and build a house on the other. The township has grown to cater for miners and is largely populated by those few who have struck it rich and built themselves comfortable, if incongruous, suburban villas, and those who have given up the unequal struggle and settled for safer vocations, like running motels and shops, or making pottery from opal clay.

"Some men here have become millionaires with 10 minutes work", Dave Martin, an old prospector, explains. He has been working Lightning Ridge himself for 16 years, but now spends more time showing visitors around and recalling the area's history between beers. "Others never find anything and live all their lives on hope and kangaroo stew."

Artist Paul Bird lives in a substantial house on a claim, supplementing his income by painting local scenes. To make life more bearable for his wife and child, he has dug an underground room beneath the house, where the temperature remains comfortable while the air outside goes up over 120°F. Life in the caravans and shacks around the holes is not comfortable. In town, water is

arrive in coaches, and stay in the new Lightning Ridge Motel, the closest to luxury the town offers. Locals are pleased to show off their pioneer lifestyle, but at the same time frightened of losing it. Many of them first came to the area as visitors and "fell in love with it". If you didn't fall in love at the first sight you wouldn't be able to stand it for more than a couple of days. Local eccentricity manifests itself in a number of ways. Owen Jenkins runs an animal orphanage for the kangaroos whose mothers are killed in road accidents.

Another local woman collects cacti and fights a continual battle with an over-zealous local government inspector, who is certain she is harbouring species that will spread the nation epidemic proportions. Someone else has built a house entirely of bottles, and once a year there is a goat race down the main street, for which wild goats are caught, trained and ridden with gusto.

Local characters like Dave Martin have huge funds of stories, but in between the historic events stretch the long hot, dusty walking hours, when the only thing to do is sink a few more beers, or chip away a few more inches in the cool, clay burrows.

Andrew Crofts

To get to Lightning Ridge from Sydney it is advisable to take an organized tour, either by coach or plane and car, with either motel or campsite accommodation. The internal airline AAT organizes seven-day coach tours for \$450 per person, including accommodation and meals, with the coach departing on a Wednesday from Sydney. Alternatively, a car hire company can provide a car for hire for \$125 per person. A straight return air ticket from Sydney costs around \$400, so it is worth taking a "Fly New South Wales" pass for the same price, which gives unlimited flights within the state for 14 days. Arrangements can be made through Jetabout, 500 Chiswick High Road, London W4, (747 3747) and 140 Pacific Highway, North Sydney (0110 61 236 3636).

ON THE REEF

New worlds down under

First there were the sharks - I must ignore the sharks. Forget all that jaws, rub-bish and relax.

Don't actually provoke them, mind you, just ignore them and they ignore you. That was the expert advice, but like most divers from cold water countries who first explore the Great Barrier Reef, I found it difficult to accept. Try, I was told, to appreciate them for what they are: streamlined predators of marvellous efficiency and instinct, a threat to fish but not to humans. But, I nervously inquired, what about the case of the ship's cook eaten a few days earlier and the crewman manhandled to death when a fishing boat overturned? The tragedy was the exception to the rule. It had probably happened because they had fallen into the sea with the catch, the sudden bonus from above that had sent the sharks into a feeding frenzy.

With that thought in mind, and only partly reassured by the experience of Ray Gomersall, our dive-master, who had only twice in 10 years been forced out of the water by a "big biter", I finally checked my air supply and harness, and called back towards the edge of the boat into the warm Pacific. The Great Barrier Reef has not been plundered and destroyed by the crown of thorns starfish, a multi-tentacled coral-eater which attacks the reef in locust numbers and reduces it to dead, stripped rock. Areas have been attacked, but many of the divers I met thought the submarine "ecologists" had



Sight-seeing dip: The richest marine life anywhere

perhaps over-reacted to the threat. There was no sign of sick coral near our group. We did not have to dive deep - 40ft was ample to appreciate a majestic and colourful world. A legless head turtle lumbered past en route from nowhere to nowhere, a stingray, sting erect, flapped into the deep in panic as we approached. The reef is probably the richest area for marine life in the world. The Caribbean numbers its species in the hundreds; Australia's amazing reef, the eighth wonder of the world, runs into thousands. When a diver has learnt to relax

from Shute Harbour on the coast near Proserpine. They carry reef watchers out to a lagoon 30 miles offshore. Passengers are ferried from the aircraft on to the coral where it is thinly covered by the sea and are left to prod around after a briefing on what they should avoid touching: stone fish, for example, that are amazingly camouflaged and have a near fatal sting, and certain antiseptic families of stinging hydroids. "You know when you stand on one, your hair stands on end", the guide cheerfully explained to a group of Japanese bankers that had rolled up its collective trousers and was paddling uncertainly among the coral. A short trip away by boat lay anchored the Reef Encounter, a diving support ship skippered by Mr Gomersall which acts as hotel and service station for the parties of scuba enthusiasts and snorkellers. From the vessel they explore Hook Reef which is surrounded by excellent dive sites including coral, the Canyons, an area of reef that has fractured into a maze of submarine cliffs, passageways and caves. There is also Shark Alley, a cut in the reef where the tide flows in and out in a submarine waterfall, and where tiger and black-tipped sharks commonly hunt. Not everyone quite grasped what the reef was. One passenger with Air Whitsunday wanted to fly out to the reef with his bicycle. "What are you hoping to do?" the bewildered pilot demanded. "I'm going to land there and ride it up to Cairns", was the reply. Cairns is a town 300 miles to the north. He clearly imagined a smooth causeway running along the sea surface and holding back the full weight of the Pacific. In fact, it is a jigsaw of more than 3,000 individual reefs that form a ragged barrier protecting the Queensland coast. "It is a magical place. When the spring tide ebbs, the coral lifts the lagoon above the level of the sea, which is eerie. There's a lot of peace and quiet here; sunrise and sunset are spectacularly colourful", Mr Gomersall reflected on the bridge of his lonely ship. A similar kind of isolation can be found on Heron Island to the south, which is advertised as a drop in the ocean. The island, which measures one mile around its flawless beach shaded with tropical trees, jets

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FAMILY MONEY

School fees

Save the agony by saving with a flexible scheme

With only days left before the start of a new term, the annual agonizing over school fees and how to pay them begins.

A lot of mystery surrounds school-fee schemes but anyone seeking advice should remember that they all basically utilize existing insurance plans, the proceeds of which can be used for a number of purposes - not just the provision of school fees.

The parents' objective should be to build up a fund which can be used for several purposes. You may find that you change your mind about independent education, so it is important to make sure that any scheme has sufficient flexibility. The priority should be the maximum capital appreciation of savings.



The initial years of a savings programme should cover current-day school fees from the age of 11 to 18 years for a child, allowing for inflation at 7 per cent (compound) from today.

and compare their recommendations. In recent years people have become more aware of the tax benefits available if a grandparent, friend or relative covens money to a child to help with school fees.

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Current account - no interest paid. Deposit accounts - Midlands, Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 6 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. Lloyds extra interest 9 1/2 per cent. Monthly income account Natwest 9 1/2 per cent. Fixed term deposits £2,500-£25,000 - 1, 3 and 6 months 8 1/2 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

Table with columns: Fund Name, Rate, Telephone. Lists various investment funds like Action Home, monthly income, Bank of Scotland, etc.

Local authority yearling bonds 12-month fixed rate investments, interest 10 1/2 per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

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receive a 24 per cent supplement between October 1982 and October 1983 a 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 Retirement Issue certificates purchased in August 1975, £173.78 including 4 per cent bonus.

Guaranteed Income Bonds Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity schemes 2 & 3 years Canterbury Life 8.5 per cent min investment £1,000, 4 years General portfolio 9-11.5 per cent, min investment £1,000, 5 years Sentry 10 per cent, min investment £1,500.

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Investors in industry Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half yearly, 10 years term of tax 3-4 years, 11 per cent; 5 years, 11 1/2 per cent; 6-10 years, 11 1/2 per cent. Further information is available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-630 7401, after 3 pm). See also on Prestel no 24808.

Advertisement for HFS (Homeowners Friendly Society) with large text '13.39% NET PA. 19.13% GROSS'. Includes details about savings plans and contact information.

Large financial table titled 'Unit Trust Prices - change on the week'. It contains multiple columns of data for various unit trusts, including names, prices, and weekly changes.

REVIEW Video cassettes



Laughing around the clock: Richard Pryor, John Cleese, Billy Connolly, and television's favourite comedy duo, Cannon and Ball

Comics who stand up to live audience test

The art of performing comedy in front of a live audience has inevitably declined with the growth of television. The television comic has the much easier life. If he fluffs his lines, there can be a retake. If the studio audience (assuming there is one) is unresponsive, laughter can be added later. All is planned and scripted and little can go wrong.

punch-line, often the story tails away without a point. He is offensive without being malicious. There is initial shock at his crude vocabulary, layatorial preoccupations and insistence on bad taste. But these are the trappings, not the essence.

At root, Connolly is a storyteller of and for the people. His public is national, and becoming international, but he still speaks to it as if it were homely Scottish.

Monty Python is essentially television comedy, which does not transfer well to the stage. Many of Python's most successful episodes are filmed out of doors, and the more intimate sketches, created for the close-up cosiness of the small screen, become lost in a huge auditorium in front of thousands of spectators.

Their act is highly professional, and they perform with assurance, timing and a mutual confidence that comes only to couples who have struggled together for a long time. But there is little that is subtle, either in content or performance.

Billy Connolly has managed to become famous without the benefit of a television show. His talent is that of the raconteur rather than the comic. His stories meander. He finds diversions. Sometimes there is a

Richard Pryor, a black American, has much in common with Connolly, a white Scot, not least in the overwhelming response of his audience and the occasional

imperviousness of his accent. His humour, like Connolly's, is founded on adversity, confrontation, and the perception that human relationships and behaviour are fundamentally absurd.

Cannon and Ball have inherited Monty Python and Wise's long-held title of television's favourite comedy duo. It is not easy to understand the reason for their phenomenal attraction.

Marcel Berlins

Providing holiday animation

If the summer holidays are proving a drag, video could come to the rescue. There is certainly no shortage of tapes for children and the quality is often surprisingly high. What follows is merely a small selection of the more recent issues.

More animated features have been issued by Videomeia, a company which can claim to have pioneered children's video in Britain. Peter No-Tail is a Disney-ish fantasy about a kitten born without a tail and was made by the Swedish Film Institute. It runs 81 minutes and costs around £37.

and the now classic Mary Poppins, which made a star of (and won an Oscar for) Julie Andrews. There are also adventure stories, like The Incredible Journey and Night Crossing and Candace, with one of the best of David Niven's later performances. None of these films, incidentally, has been screened on television, which strengthens the case for their video issue.

For a start, I can recommend a series put out by VCL under the title "Cartoon Carousel". They are animated versions, each lasting around 45 minutes, of such classic stories as Robinson Crusoe, Treasure Island and Journey to the Centre of the Earth. Tastefully and entertainingly done, they retail at around £25.

There is news this month of a video company formed for the admirable purpose of releasing those specialist "art" films that win the critical plaudits and play for a couple of weeks but hardly surface again.

is a film which had a very limited cinema release. An Enemy of the People, an unlikely combination of Ibsen and Steve McQueen.

New releases

transvestite: The Terror of Tiny Town, a Western with an all midge cast; and Horror of Party Beach.

Palace Video is issuing Fassbinder's last film, Querelle, almost simultaneously with its British cinema opening, and a 196 minute film directed by Paul Czinner and first released in 1961, of Der Rosenkavalier, a Salzburg Festival production with the Vienna Philharmonic under von Karajan and Elizabeth Schwarzkopf. The slim list of opera tapes is further boosted by Verdi's Ernani, with Placido Domingo, from Longman Video, and the same company has the first of a planned series of ballet titles, The Sleeping Beauty, by the Kirov.

P.W.

Collecting

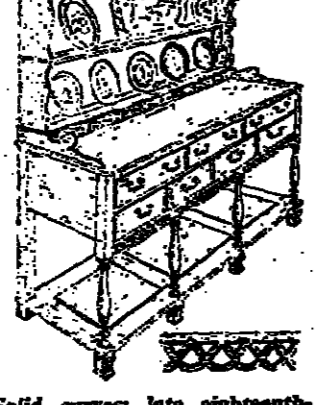
Kitchen treasure's local accent

"I don't imagine there'll be much to concern you in the kitchen," said the owner. "It's a dreadful hotchpotch of tat and technology - except for an old dresser, left to my husband by his Welsh grandmother. Probably not much good, but it had better appear in the inventory, just to satisfy him."

considered most desirable. That doesn't mean that a dresser has to boast all of them to be either genuine or worthwhile, but each adds quite a bit to its value.

"Quite often, yes, particularly if it's what is called 'rural', the indigenous product of a fairly well defined region. It's like language, or dialect. An expert can detect a local accent, just as you might spot it in speech."

"In practice, I think they used to contain bits of string and unpaid bills. Now we come to the base. One as good as this, these days, is highly prized as a serving table, even if the rack has gone missing."



Solid curves: late eighteenth-century South Wales dresser with detail of the apron

"I'm not sure that folk culture is really my sort of thing. But do go on."

"What's so marvellous about this one?" A double bank of drawers, resting on well-turned legs that come down to a particularly good pot-board, constructed with three raised panels. And below that, feet with an unusual detail - an ogee curve to their fronts.

"I don't think I like being called a sophisticated circle and accused of relegating the poor thing. It makes it sound like one of those pathetic little football teams. Do you think it ought to be promoted?"

Peter Philip

More than a touch of the controversial

Glenda Jackson can usually be relied upon to associate herself with something unexpected, be it the Marat/Sade production in the early 1960s which brought her to prominence or films such as Ken Russell's controversial view of Tchaikovsky. Returning this week to the West End stage, where she was last seen playing Hitler's mistress, Eva Braun, in Robert David MacDonald's Summit Conference, she appears to have made one of her more eccentric choices.

The play in question is Great and Small, by Botho Strauss, one of Germany's leading playwrights. The English production, directed by Keith Hack, has already been on tour, to Leeds, Manchester, Bath and Richmond, and has been received with suspicion and, in some cases, a lack of understanding which has provoked cries of "Rubbish" and the pitter-patter of feet leaving the theatre.

It is an episodic play about a woman's search for her own identity in the midst of an alien environment. The woman, Lotte, played by Glenda Jackson, struggles against a world lacking in morality and human spiritual values until she finds her own identity.

She believes that if the play had been done in its more natural home - at the National or the RSC - the reaction would not have been so marked. "We are getting more and more of the play as we go on. We probably will not get it all to our satisfaction, but it is a play which is worth all the effort."

Great and Small was first produced at the Berliner Schaubühne in 1978, ran for a year in Paris in 1982, has been performed in many European countries, and was staged in New York in 1979.

Hack and his cast were surprised at the number of people who said they did not understand the play, and there has been a good deal of work on retranslation in an attempt to make it more accessible to English audiences. It may, indeed, have attracted the wrong kind of audience on tour. In Manchester it appeared between David Essex and a piece about Rupert Bear; many people, also, may know Glenda Jackson better for her comedy film roles, such as in A Touch of Class, her other work.

It is a controversial play, Keith Hack acknowledges, but after the tour, the reworking and the rehearsal, he believes that there is nothing in it that is inexplicable.

Glenda Jackson is looking forward to its West End opening. "I think it is a very good play. Its themes are interesting and relevant, and the author's way of presenting them in a non-didactic way is fascinating. He paints on a very large canvas and takes huge risks theatrically."

Christopher Warman

PREVIEW Theatre



Glenda Jackson, lost among the aliens: 'It is a play worth all the effort'

summer evening. Louise Jameson's lovely Rosalind holds the high comedy and the pathos in delicate balance, John Curry (Orlando) proves a charming wrestler and David Williams is a superbly distinguished Jacques.

AS YOU LIKE IT Open Air, Regent's Park (486 2431) Last performances Thurs at 2.30pm and 7.45pm. In repertory with A Midsummer Night's Dream (today at 2.30pm, Fri at 7.45pm) and As You Like It (today, Mon and Tues at 8pm; last performance Wed at 2.30pm and 8pm). Season ends Aug 27.

THE SCULPTURE SHOW Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (826 3144). Until Oct 5, Mon-Thurs 10am-6pm, Fri and Sat 10am-6pm, Sun noon-6pm; Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (492 5075). Until Oct 9, Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat and Sun 10am-7pm. Admission free.

Critics' choice

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CHERRY BLOSSOM Today and Mon at 7.30pm, Thurs at 1.30pm. Peter McEnery, David Schofield, Joseph O'Connor, Emrys James; directed by Ron Daniels.

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS Fri at 7.30pm. Adrian Noble directs a new production, with Peter McEnery and Paul Greenwood.

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PREVIEW Galleries

BARBARA BARAN AND ELIZABETH ZESCHIN Impressions Gallery, 17 Colindale Avenue, London NW9 (439 5472). Until Aug 27, Tues-Sat 10am-6pm. Barbara Baran examines three areas of museum conservation - the Egyptian gallery at the British Museum, the harm that befalls historical sites when overrun by tourists and the misuse or otherwise of animal forms as exhibits - and comes to some interesting conclusions. Elizabeth Zeschin shows interesting and elegant portraits.

ROYAL ACADEMY SUMMER EXHIBITION Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1 (734 3471). Until Aug 28, daily 10am-6pm. Admission £2, £1. Mon: 50p for all.

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Sunday 21 August 5.30 pm Waterloo Rains. Robert Simpson talks about his new symphonies 2 and 3.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL Saturday 20 August 7.45 pm London Sinfonietta, Rattle, Ax (piano), Kim (violin), Ma (cello).

PURCELL ROOM Monday 22 August 8.00 pm The Songmakers' Almanac. Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 23 (Eroica).

SOUTH BANK SUMMER FOLK Saturday 20 August 7.30 pm Pacific Rims. Steel String Band. Alcorn Anderson, Tony Deacon, Marus Dun, Chuck Johnson, Billy Mannan, Wily Taylor.

AND THE GIL EVANS BAND A concert on August 26 with the great American jazz musician at the Royal Festival Hall.

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THE SONGMAKERS' ALMANAC Patricia Rozario soprano, Anthony Rolfe Johnson tenor, Marilyn Hill tenor, Richard Jackson baritone, Graham Johnson piano.

ZOLTAN KOCSIS piano Brahms Sonatas for F minor and D major. Wagner: Siegfried and Tristan.

BRIGITTE FASSBAENDER mezzo soprano BRITN GAGE piano. Songs by Maxine Peacock, Robert Schumann, Johannes Brahms.

BARBICAN HALL Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2Y 8DS. AN EXTRAVAGANZA OF ORGANS ON SATURDAY.

RAYMOND GUBBYAN presents at the BARBICAN MASSES GUARDS BAND SPECTACULAR BAND OF THE SCOTS GUARDS.

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents at the BARBICAN TOMORROW at 7.30 pm MANTOVANI ORCHESTRA.

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حكايات الأهل

PREVIEW Films

Conflict between internal gods

Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence, a Japanese-British production directed by Nagisa Oshima...

worked on the script in 1961, he told one interviewer that the film's chief battles would be internal - "a conflict between the gods inside the British soldiers and the gods inside the Japanese soldiers"...

with France, Oshima moved into the international arena. Placed alongside those erotic spectacles, Merry Christmas may seem modest, unprovocative...



Change of rock: David Bowie as the disturbed POW, Major Jack Celliers

Critics' choice

BUSTER KEATON SEASON Barbican Cinema One (828 8785) until Aug 31. Seven films this week by the silent cinema's nimblest clown...

LE JOUR SE LEVE (15) Academy 3, Oxford Street (437 8818). Jean Gabin as a besieged murderer going through his last hours...

ONE FROM THE HEART (15) Lumiere, St Martin's Lane (836 0891) until Aug 31. Francis Coppola's studio-bound musical fantasy offers scanty human feelings and abundant technological fireworks...

Emperor. Directed by Richard Marquand with Harrison Ford. THE RISE TO POWER OF LOUIS XIV (U) Cinema, Knightsbridge (235 4225) until Aug 24...

FILMS ON TV. "And how," somebody once asked W. C. Fields, "do you like children?" "Boiled," came the nasal drawl from beneath the strawberry nose...

film best remembered, perhaps, for the splitting of Charles Laughton's tailcoat as he conducts a symphony orchestra. Fields launched himself on his screen career in 1915 - in a film called Pool Sharks...

DIAL M FOR MURDER (PG) ICA Cinema, The Mall (830 3647) until Sept 7 (closed Mon). Seen without the original 3D effects, Alfred Hitchcock's 1954 film of Freudian psychosexuality remains as fresh as a daisy...

OCTOPUSSY (15) Classic Chelsea (352 5006) Empire Leicester Square (437 1234). Odeon Kensington (802 6644). Odeon Marble Arch (723 2011/2).

RETURN OF THE JEDI (U) Classic Chelsea (352 5096) Classic Tottenham Court Road (636 6148). Leicester Square Theatre (930 5252). Odeon Kensington (802 6644).

WAR GAMES (PG) Odeon Leicester Square (930 5111). The artful story of a boy computer wizard who locates a secret system programmed to play games ranging from chess to global thermonuclear war...

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Concerts

ALL AMERICAN Today, 7.30pm, Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (888 8212). This all-American Prom by the BBC Concert Orchestra almost inevitably begins with Bernstein's Candide Overture...

AX, KIM, MA II Tomorrow, 8pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall. The omnipresent Emanuel Ax, Young Uk Kim and Yo Yo Ma play respectively Mozart's Piano Concerto K 453, Berg's Violin Concerto and the world premiere of Oliver Knussen's Märchen. Ravel's Mère l'Oye is included, too, and Simon Rattle conducts.

WAR AND PEACE III Wed, 6pm, Purcell Room. The Songmakers' Almanac crowd sing, and talk about, American and Russian songs of war and peace by Ned Rorem (War Scenes), Stephen Foster, Mussorgsky and Shostakovich.

WAR AND PEACE IV Fri, 8pm, Purcell Room. The Songmakers' Almanac crowd sing, and talk about, World War I songs from American vaudeville, British music-hall, German cabaret, and World War II songs by Noël Coward. Also included is Robin Holloway's tedious Women in War.

BAROQUE BONANZA Fri, 7.30pm, Albert Hall. The Polish Chamber Orchestra is directed by Jerzy Maksymiuk in Handel's Concertos Grosso Op 6 Nos 2 and 11, Bach's Brandenburg Concertos Nos 3 and 4.

MELOS AT MALTINGS Fri, 7.30pm, The Maltings, Snape. In his Maltings Prom the Melos Ensemble plays Brahms's Clarinet Quintet and Schubert's Octet.

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WAR AND PEACE II Tues, 6pm, Purcell Room. The Songmakers' Almanac bunch sing, and talk about, French and Spanish songs of peace and war with France, Oshima moved into the international arena...

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WAR AND PEACE V Sat, 7.30pm, Albert Hall. The BBC Symphony Orchestra provides a rare opportunity of hearing Tappin's Symphony No 2, hearing Mark Elder conducts Beethoven's Leonora Overture No 2 and Pinchas Zukerman solos in Beethoven's Violin Concerto.

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Advertisement for 'THE MEANING OF LIFE' featuring a large image of a man and text: '...here's something right over the top...brilliant.' Includes logos for ABC, FLAZZA, and SHAFESBURY AV.

Advertisement for 'Rock & Jazz' featuring Gil Evans and Steve Ross. Text: 'Commonwealth Institute and the Greater London Council, this patriotic festival continues tonight with the renowned Welsh rock group Man and the comedian Wild Willy Barrett...'.

Advertisement for 'The Times Jumbo Prize Crossword will appear in Saturday next week'. Text: 'Schlippenbach brings his quartet, with the British saxophonist Evan Parker and the American bassist Alan Silva...'.

Chess

Players made pawns of board politics

The whole chess world is in a state of despair at the failure of the World Chess Federation to get the semi-finals of the Candidates matches played. As a result of this failure it is clear that the most likely candidate for the championship honours, Garry Kasparov, has been deprived of the opportunity of wrestling the title from Anatoly Karpov, the world champion.

Nothing is very clear about the other match which was to have been played in Abu Dhabi between Vassily Smyslov, the former world champion, and Zoltan Ribli, the Hungarian. Did the players object to playing there? We know that the Soviet Chess Federation did object to the venue on the grounds that the climate was far too hot, but have the Russians never heard of air conditioning?

FIDE statutes forbid in the strongest terms any indulging in racial animosity or political prejudices and it is obvious that the statutes must be obeyed and their provisions honoured. Yet it has to be admitted that, on this occasion Florencio Campomanes, the president of the World Chess Federation, and the most powerful federation within it, the Soviet Chess Federation, have between them made a complete mess of the whole affair.

What is clear is that the chess world has been deprived of a fascinating match, that between Kasparov and Korchnoi, and possibly of a still more fascinating encounter between Kasparov and Karpov. To restore some sanity to the chess world, it is the duty of some federation to propose at the next meeting of the FIDE congress in October that the president acted wrongly in defaulting the players.

In the past, I have been involved in Candidates matches, either as one of the organizers or as one of the judges, and I despair at the utter failure in the present imbroglio of an understanding on the part of the opposing factions of the point of view of the players, and of the whole of the chess world who are so anxious to see these matches played.

As a sample of what we may be missing I give a game that Kasparov played in the last round of the forty-ninth Soviet Championship tournament at Frunze in 1981 when he was 18 years old.

White: Tukmakov. Black: Kasparov. Q.P.K. Defence.

A mistake; better was 27 Q-B1. And this loss at once. Correct was 29 Q-K1.



Chess kings: Anatoly Karpov (left) and Garry Kasparov

Bridge

Two titles for French, double miss for Dutch

France won both the open and the Women's titles at the recent European Championships in Wiesbaden to join Italy and Great Britain as the only countries ever to have achieved the double.

Napoleon's insistence on generals who are, above everything else, lucky. This hand shows that even if our women lost their European title, they retain the touch of world champions.

The leading positions in the open series was 1st, France (361 VPs); 2nd, Italy (309 VPs); 3rd, Norway (293), VPs. Great Britain finished in thirteenth place.

The result in the women's series was 1st, France (148 VPs); 2nd, Netherlands (138 VPs); 3rd, Great Britain (138 VPs).

Great Britain, the current world champions, and odds-on favourites for the championship, lost the silver medal on a split tie. Any small chance that remained was dissipated when the team lost to Sweden by 16 VPs to 4 VPs in the penultimate round.

But if the British are naturally disappointed, it is the Dutch who must be kicking themselves. With two rounds to play and the title apparently in their grasp, they lost 19-1 to Israel, who were lying bottom of the table having amassed only 18 points from nine matches. A win over France in the last round would still have sufficed to give the Dutch their first championship. But it was not to be. The French played steadily to score a well-deserved success.

Finally the Captain, Bill Pencharz, admirably fulfilled a role that some say requires the tact of a Palace spokesman combined with the courage of a Sicilian judge. But the team may have missed their regular Captain, Derek Rimmington, for no better reason than

Jeremy Fry

PREVIEW Edinburgh Festival 1983

Plain elegance and pediments with a redolent past

During August, Edinburgh swells with the arrival of more than a million visitors. They tread the paths of many illustrious predecessors...

In 1847, Hans Christian Andersen's concern was less with smells than with squalor; for with the arrival of the New Town, all the quality had removed northwards...

An architectural guide to the city
Morran's House in Riddle's Close. "Mr Johnson sends his compliments to Mr Boswell..."

monotony of the New Town. Thus dispensing with the phallic, elegant Georgian facades, he then dismissed the magnificent collection of floridly pedimented neo-classical banks in George Street...

by Robert Adam in 1791. His influence was such that the plain Scottish Georgian buildings of neighbouring streets - particularly North Castle Street - were required, if they were to remain fashionable, to follow suit...



Historic skyline: Breathtaking as ever, but without most of the medieval grandeur

THEATRE

The Festival's Vienna 1900 theme seems much more fruitful on the visual arts and music sides than in theatre, but in fact it has induced major theatre companies to come up with interesting rarities that promise ideal festival fare...

and ego trips and cabarets galore. The original eighteenth-century Assembly Rooms, containing four auditoria, are, like last year, giving what amounts to a mini-festival in itself...

the old boy to blacken Richard III, Salome Cabaret (the adaptation and striptease) or the English Touring Company's morning show of Rold Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory...

Outside the retrospectives, perhaps the principal oddity is Samuel Fuller's White Dog (Thurs), an extraordinary drama drawn from Romain Gary's novel about a dog trained to attack blacks...

Robin Phillips, President of the Royal Scottish Academy (until Sept 14). The Scottish National Gallery continues throughout the festival to celebrate an earlier generation of Scottish artists...

territory earlier this year. Stephen Paulus's The Position always Rings Twice, from James M. Cain's novel, has already been the subject of two films...

Opera at the Festival starts in the King's Theatre with a double bill by Zemlinsky teacher and brother-in-law of Schoenberg...

which composer Christian Bockstad and choreographer Robert North have taken designs by Bridget Riley. They first work the stage as their starting point...

FILMS

While visitors to the world's film festival complain about bruised elbows, kicked shins and masterworks projected on to curtains, festival organizers have their own set of problems. Securing suitable films, for instance...

Solo comedy on at the Assembly Rooms ranges from the scorching acid of "high energy" New York comedy presented by Eric Bogosian to Neil Innes, Victor Spinetti and mime artist Nora Rae...

At the Traverse, the great film director Andrzej Wajda is staging a two-act scene from Dostoyevsky's The Idiot nightly for the next two weeks...

Vienna at the turn of the century, including Klimt, Schiele, Kokoschka, Josef Hoffmann, Otto Wagner and Adolf Loos, as well as featuring a group of paintings by Schoenberg never before seen in this country...

What with the Vienna 1900 exhibition, a ballet version of Kokoschka with music by Schoenberg, and Zemlinsky opera, there is a strong Austrian presence at this year's festival...

Flanking the Zemlinsky are three performances in German of Die Zauberkette on Tues, Thurs and Aug 27 in a fresh, pantomimic production by Achim Freyer...

Other highlights of the jazz programme, which is titled "Round Midnight", are the formidable blues singer and pianist Memphis Slim (Aug 24 and 25)...

The Edinburgh Photographic Society present their 121st International Exhibition of Photography at the Merchant Hall, 22 Hanover Street until Sept 10...

FRINGE THEATRE

Almost 500 groups on this year's Fringe will, as usual, be at it all hours of the day. The 72-page quarterly Fringe programme is much too big to carry in anything but a knapsack...

seen at the New End in a brilliant modern-dress Othello, Cambridge University Players' jazz musical based on archy and melancholy, and William McLin's solo reading of Mark Twain in three lunchtime shows...

Other films on display include studies of Bertolucci's Bertolucci According to the Cinema, Mon and the philosopher Campaella (City in the Sun, Tues).

The theme is taken further by the Mercury Gallery, 2-3 North Bank Street, The Mound, with a show of the applied arts of the Wiener Werkstätte 1903-1932...

Mahler himself is present, of course, with his Symphonies Nos 4 and 10, the latter completed for him by Deryck Cooke. Other symphonies include Nielsen's "Inextinguishable", Beethoven's "Eroica" and Haydn's "La Passione"...

After its great success in Geneva, Scottish Opera's production of Britten's last opera, Death in Venice visits Edinburgh for (sadly) only one performance on Friday, before brief visits to Newcastle and Liverpool...

In the official programme, dance is confined to weeks two and three. This year's Tennent Caledonian Award commission is "Mörder Hoffnung der Frauen" ("Murderer, Hope of Women")...

Studio One, 10 Stafford Street, is showing Holograms from Canada until Sept 3, which are clearly intended to stimulate some response than merely amuse. The gallery's claim is that at last artists have wrestled holography from the hands of scientists...

THE WEEK AHEAD

SPORT IN AID OF SPASTICS: The proceeds from a day of sports demonstrations go to the Spastics Society. Sports champions present include Sharon Davies, Liz Hobbs and Brian Jacks...

EUROPEAN CUP BRUNO ZAULI 1983: Following the World Athletics Championships at Helsinki, this is the second biggest athletics fixture of the season in the world. A host of gold medalists from Helsinki will be present...

FA CHARITY SHIELDS: Last season's winners of the football league championship (Liverpool) and the FA cup final (Manchester United) meet at this annual event. Wembley Stadium, Wemley, Middlesex (902 1234). Gates open 1.30pm. Sold out except for standing room, at 24. Highlights on BBC 1, 10.30pm.

CLIVE OF INDIA: Kenneth Griffith's illuminating biography of Robert Clive, filmed in India and England. Clive had a meteoric career in eighteenth-century India but when he returned to England laden with honours and wealth he faced the bitter...

BLUE THUNDER: Roy Scheider stars in John Badham's film about a pilot testing a new aircraft that is ostensibly to be used for crowd control. Scheider suspects that its abilities to film people through walls and fire its own electric cannon may have been designed for other uses...

CHARLOTTE, EMILY AND ANNE: National Youth Theatre production, directed by Richard Howard, of a new play about the Brontë sisters. Joannea Cochrane Theatre, Southampton Row, WC1 (247 7040). Opens today at 7pm. Tues-Thurs-Sat at 7.30pm; Aug 30-Sept 3 at 7.30pm.

MAN AND SUPERMAN: Peter O'Toole plays John Turner in George Bernard Shaw's play, described by the author as a comedy and a philosophy. Filmed for television during a performance at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, Channel 4, 9-11.35pm.

FOURTH TEST: This is the fourth and final Test. England are leading 2-1 and are already assured of a share in the series, although they will be hoping to make certain their victory. Trent Bridge, Nottingham, broadcast today on Radio 3, 10.45am-6.30pm and on BBC1 at 10.55am and 1.40pm; BBC2 at 4.15pm; highlights, BBC1 at 10.55pm.

Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 735.7 down 3.2 FT Gilt 79.51 down 0.12 FT All Shares 483.82 down 1.92

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling 1.5188 down 55pts Index 85.7 up 0.2 DM 4.0350 up 0.02

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Bank base rates 9 1/2 Finance houses base rate 10

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am \$418.10 pm \$417.75

NOTEBOOK

After Anderson Strathclyde and Victor Products has produced the trading equipment sector's sparkling ups...

Call for central register of directors' contracts Angry pension funds seek changes to help limit golden handshakes

Big pension funds want a central register of directors' service contracts to be established by the National Association of Pension Funds to help stamp out hefty compensation payments.

A manager of one of the big funds said: "The problem is that we only hear about these contracts when the horse has bolted... These payments are getting beyond a joke and they are bringing the whole board system into disrepute."

But the funds argue that the difficulty is only a technical one which could be overcome given the will of all big shareholders to make it work.

However, not all big shareholders believe the idea would work. M & G's Mr David Tucker believes that better education of shareholders to pressure companies would solve the problem without establishing a large bureaucracy.

to Mr Bill Fieldhouse by Carrington Virella and the growth of expensive perks like houses and cars.

Mount Charlotte in £21.5m expansion

Mount Charlotte Investments, the fast-growing hotels and catering group based in Leeds, is to buy two London hotels from Grand Metropolitan for £21.5m.

It is the third big buy that this ambitious group has made in just over a year. In June last year it bought the London Ryan near King's Cross for £3.1m, and in January this year it paid £19m to Trusthouse Forte for three more London hotels.

A finger in every City pie

Mr Michael Ashcroft one of the City's fastest-moving businessmen, now owns at least one share in every company quoted on the London Stock Exchange.

This gives him, through his diversified Hawley Group, a stake in about 6,000 companies. The purpose of these small stakes is to feed information into Hawley's in-house merger broking business, Procraft, which keeps Mr Ashcroft in touch with what is going on.

Mr Ashcroft has just returned from Canada where he has been checking on Midexpa, a shell company where he acquired 72 per cent two weeks ago.

Raper to fight Takeover Panel ruling

The City Takeover Panel is heading for another confrontation with the financier, Mr Jim Raper, after ruling that his Saint Piran property company is obliged, under the takeover code, to make a £9.7m bid for Westminster Property Group.

Mr Raper who described the decision as "a complete nonsense" intends to appeal. The Panel made a similar ruling against Mr Raper in April 1980 but his findings were ignored by him.

Waring & Gillow £300,000 in red

Waring & Gillow, the furniture and carpet retailer, which announced three months ago it had received a bid approach, slumped into the red last year.

For the 12 months to the end of last March, losses totalled almost £300,000 before tax against a £632,000 profit last year. However, the group has increased the total dividends for the year from 0.5p to 1.25p.

Lonrho to sue Fraser

Lonrho has started legal action against the House of Fraser group in an attempt to get the proxy cards and voting papers cast on whether Harrods should become a separate company.

House of Fraser said last night that it intended to contest the action.

Western oil stocks 12% below winter level

Opec may step up output

Oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) have brought forward the date of their next meeting on production quotas against the background of reports that the western industrial world's oil stocks are up to 12 per cent below expected winter demand.

Opec has already issued a denial that present production quotas are being exceeded. In a statement in Vienna, Dr Otaiiba said: "All Opec countries, including the UAE and Saudi Arabia, are committed to Opec resolutions and are abiding by official prices. There are no violators."

However, Opec may soon be forced to increase its output by up to 20 million barrels a day if Northern Europe and the US suffer a harsh winter. Oil companies estimate that about 80 days' stock of crude oil and refined products is available in the western world, whereas in past years 100 days' stock has been necessary to ensure supplies.

Surprise spurt in US recovery

The American economy is growing even faster than previously thought, according to revised figures published yesterday. These show that gross national product expanded at its quickest for five years in the April-June quarter - 9.2 per cent at an annual rate - and profits of US companies made their biggest jump in nearly eight years.

A commerce Department report giving revised statistics said that the April-June quarter - as measured by the inflation-adjusted gap - was half a percentage point stronger than the 8.7 per cent rate estimated last month. It was the fastest gain in business activity since the 11 per cent annual rate in the second quarter of 1978.

Banks 'spent \$3bn to restrain dollar'

Central banks have spent more than \$3,000m in intervening in currency markets to hold back the United States dollar, Karl Otto Poehl, president of the German Bundesbank, said in an interview.

Dow lifts after early dip

New York (AP-DJ) - Stocks edged ahead with the Dow Jones industrial average up more than a point after a dip of three in early trading. Declines dropped to 50 issues ahead of advances, compared with an earlier 3-2 lead, and trading quietened.

City Editor's Comment

Figuring out the numbers puzzle

The latest crop of economic figures is distinctly puzzling. If the mood in industry and in the country was different, they might indeed breed gloom and talk of the recovery petering out.

The most noticeable item was the cut in industrial production in June. This was not at all what was expected and has led to a number of explanations about changing seasonal patterns and, inevitably, if early, the weather.

However, figures for output in the second quarter confirmed the impressions. They showed gross domestic product on the output measure perversely stagnant.

But how reliable are these figures? Some city analysts, such as Mr Gavyn Davies of Simon & Coates and Mr Tim O'Dell of Phillips & Drew take them seriously enough to take a second look at growth forecasts for the year, officially increased from 2 per cent around 2.5 per cent by the new Chancellor.

Others are more sanguine. Mr Mike Osborne of Grueveson, Grant for instance, argues that the alternative expenditure measure of output has proved more accurate in the past.

TI sells steel tube offshoots for £3m

The TI Group has taken a further step in reducing its interest in steel and commodity tube by selling its steel tube stockholding subsidiaries, TI Markland and TI Wilson, for £3.3m in cash. The purchaser is C Walker and Sons, the Lancashire based steel stockholder.

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Letter

Defending safeguards for the investor

From Mr A. V. Alexander

Sir, Your editorial of August 13 suggests that the "important safeguards" provided by the Insurance Brokers Registration Act...

The sole reason given for this opinion is that you state that there is no effective "complaint fund"...

Regrettably, under the present legislation it remains the case today that anyone may legally perform all the functions of an insurance intermediary...

The Act requires all registered insurance brokers to abide by a code of conduct and to be subject to the jurisdiction of a disciplinary committee...

Furthermore, the Registration Council, which I must point out is the disciplinary body for insurance brokers...

The Signal Life case is currently sub judice and it may well be that policyholders will obtain their redress through the courts...

A. V. ALEXANDER, Chairman, British Insurance Brokers' Association, Fountain House, 130 Fenchurch Street, EC3

New roll-up fund

Yet another currency roll-up fund is available - this time from Manufacturers Hanover Group, whose Geofund International Reserves offers investments in sterling, the Deutschmark, yen, Swiss francs and US dollars.

There is also a managed fund for those who prefer not to make their own currency decisions.

Investors earn money-market rates of interest on their investments. Because interest is rolled-up and not distributed, the "profit" is taxed as a capital gain rather than income.

It is also possible to switch between currencies quickly and usually without charge.

The annual management charge on the new Geofund is 0.75 per cent and there is no front-end charge. The fee on the managed fund is 1.5 per cent a year.

Help for travellers

From this week, members of Nationwide Building Society have been able to buy their travellers' cheques and foreign currency over the counter in 515 Nationwide branches.

In a link-up with Thomas Cook, Nationwide is offering sterling travellers' cheques on demand, with the US dollar, Deutschmark, French franc and Canadian dollar travellers' cheques obtainable on two to three days' notice.

But this new service will not save the customer any money. Unlike Leeds Permanent and several other societies which offer commission-free sterling travellers' cheques, Nationwide is charging the full 1 per cent commission - the same as the banks.

Student cover

Cover for students' belongings, for as little as £10 for £1,000-worth of goods, is available from West Midlands-based Brookhouse Insurance Brokers. Brookhouse points out that the premium is not higher for students in London, Liverpool or Manchester - as it is with some other policies - and the £10 "excess" is not increased for high-risk areas.

Mortgages guaranteed

Good news for house-buyers in the Manchester area - because of the huge growth in funds between January and June, the Middleton Building Society is still guaranteeing mortgages despite the general shortage of mortgage money.

Bonus rates raised

Scottish Amicable Life Assurance is increasing its terminal bonus rates for all individual with-profits policies for

claims on maturity or death. From September 1, the following percentage additions will apply:

Term	Percentage Addition	Previously
10 years	35.0%	30.0%
15 years	44.5%	38.5%
25 years	63.5%	55.5%

The above rates also apply to the Home Purchaser policy and for Flexipension or individual superannuation policies, the terminal bonus addition is 57% (previously 50%) of reversionary bonuses payable at maturity.

Making a million

"Making a million dollars is the simplest thing in the world," according to Mr Jerry Gillies, the American author of the bestselling book Moneylove. And he should know, since he has made that twice over with "Moneylove" seminars where he propounds his "prosperity consciousness" philosophy for a fee of £125.

Three things are required to become wealthy, according to Mr Gillies - a clear vision of what you want, a belief that you will get it and practical skills to put that belief into action. "Everyone should enjoy getting rich," he says.



Tax and jobs

The dead hand of the Inland Revenue leaves no stone unturned in its attempts to ensure that we all cough up.

Even the unemployed, those laid off, and employees on strike cannot escape the tax man's attentions. Now the Revenue has issued an updated series of leaflets for taxpayers in these categories.

Income Tax and the Unemployed may sound like a cruel joke, but since unemployment benefit became taxable it is yet another problem for the out of work. Income Tax and Strikes and Income Tax and Lay-offs and Short-time

Work are two further titles in this somewhat depressing series. The titles, numbered IP41, 43 and 42 respectively, are available free of charge from PAYE enquiry offices or local tax offices.

No cheques returned

Williams & Glyn's Bank has upset at least one of its customers who rang us to complain of the deterioration in service. From October 1, customers will no longer have their cheques returned to them.

"Our market research shows that the great majority of customers do not require it," explained the general manager, Mr Christopher Ruck. "It costs us a lot to provide a service which customers really don't appreciate."

'Home Extra' policy

Pointon York, the London and Leicester-based insurance group, has developed a new, all-risks "Home-Extra" contents policy. It does not cover claims under £50, unless caused by fire, but pays out on all others in full. Property in the house is covered up to the sum insured. Away from home but in the British Isles, goods are covered for up to £2,500, or up to £500 for each individual item. The same applies abroad for up to 60 days in any one period. Sports equipment, bicycles

and jewellery are fully covered and claims are settled on a new-for-old basis, except for clothing and household items. Money and credit cards are insured for up to £500 of currency loss and £500 for each cash or credit card misused. Cover costs £4.00 per £1,000 insured in the lowest rate area and £9.00 per £1,000 in London. There is an additional flat policy charge of £3.50.

Divers premium cut

Professional divers can look forward to a substantial reduction in life assurance premiums, according to SwissRe, the insurance firm which has conducted a study of diving hazards.

Annual premium as much as £200 lower on a £50,000 life policy for a professional diver in the North Sea is a typical example. The average amateur or sports diver will usually get life assurance at normal rates and will only be charged more than the average for accidental death benefit and disability cover, says SwissRe.

In 1976 professional divers had the highest death rate of all industrial occupations - 7 per cent compared with 0.247 per cent for the next highest, miners.

"The reasons for the improvement, says SwissRe, are greater experience, the change in the type of work from drilling and pipeline to maintenance, the tougher health and safety regulations and increased medical knowledge and facilities."

Pensions boost for business expansion

The Government's new business expansion scheme has given an interesting stimulus to company directors and the self-employed who run their own self-administered pension funds.

Messrs John Bevan and Mike Reynolds of James Hay Pension Trustees formed the idea of channelling funds raised by companies from the business expansion scheme, through higher salaries from the directors into the self-administered pension fund. The fund can then invest in the company, or in other small businesses.

They found themselves acting as brokers between their clients who were seeking funds under the business expansion scheme and others who were looking to invest.

Generally, they advise clients to increase their salary and invest 50 per cent of the increase in the pension scheme (which can then reinvest either in their own company or in other companies) and 50 per cent direct into other companies. Both types of investment attract tax relief at the investor's top rate.

The result has been a large number of enquiries from clients for projects to invest in. "Interestingly, we have found that because our clients are self-made men they are prepared to accept greater risks than established institutions," says Mr John Bevan.

The first such scheme they are putting together involves a City restaurant owner who wishes to start a chain of specialized fish restaurants. These will include the old-fashioned fish and chip counter, extend onto a formal fish restaurant, then onto a champagne and oyster bar.

The owner found that the bank was not interested because there were insufficient assets to back-up the borrowing requirement. Venture capital outfits



John Bevan (left) and Mike Reynolds: Advising clients to increase their salaries

wanted the man to put everything he owned on the line, including house, car and business, and on top of that wanted a third of the equity and 51 per cent of the voting rights.

"The main problem," Mr Reynolds said, "was that his record was good on ideas and instigation, but his money management was abysmal."

So the trustees have worked out a system to maintain a strict control over the financial reins and let the young entrepreneur get on with what he is good at.

"That way," Mr Reynolds added, "he is doing what he does best and we remove the temptation of putting very large amounts of money in the hands of someone not used to dealing with it. We protect our client's money and control the rate of growth to match cash with turnover."

The two men thoroughly check out the credentials of those seeking backing. "We are not put off by a chequered past. Everyone we know who has become successful has learned through making mistakes. But we cannot put pressure on our clients to invest. That is their

decision, we just check it out and say, "look are you interested in this?" Mr Bevan added.

The response has been excellent. The two trustees feel the Government's scheme is a winner. They claim that clients who have been in business 15 years and have become bored are clamouring over each other to find new projects, expand or gear up to seek a quotation. It seems to have put a lot of zest back into those companies employing 10-40 people and turning over a million pounds or so, the two claim.

There are a number of benefits to running one's own pension scheme. The fund can lean 50 per cent of its capital back to the company, can buy spare or outstanding shares, can invest in property the company uses such as offices and factories or just invest in property, stocks or bonds.

"Fundamentally," Mr Bevan said, "a self-administered fund enables the businessman to maintain control over his own money."

Wayne Lintott

Insurance Off-the-road premiums to go up

After holding the cost of premiums for two years, St Christopher Motorists' Security Association is increasing them from September 1.

Three Star plan has increased from £48 to £64, with a maximum benefit of £3,000. Four Star plan goes up from £64 to £75, with a maximum benefit of £4,200, and Five Star plan rises from £125 to £175, with a maximum benefit of £8,500.

St Christopher's managing director, Mr Martin O'Neill, said: "There are two reasons for these increases: one is the rise in costs over the last two years and, secondly we operate SCMSA along prudent insurance lines and we believe the 1981 Transport Act, which introduced the penalty points system to replace the old, ineffective totting-up system, will result in more claims from members."

"Penalty points acquired by motorists in a driving period of three years can now lead to an 18-month disqualification in this period. This will undoubtedly result in more claims from members as a greater volume of cases will be processed by the police."

St Christopher provides cover in the event of disqualification following the accumulation of 12 penalty points; mandatory disqualification following a drink/driving conviction; inability to drive through injury received while driving; and financial loss due to an accident while driving. It also provides a car for use for up to 28 days while the member's car is off the road.



Ready for takeoff: Chailey Lambert with the silver models that put him in business

Start-up schemes

Silversmith's model idea

Making silver models was the hobby of Mr Chailey Lambert, aged 20, but from now on it will be his full-time job. He is one of 20 winners in the "Head Start in Business" competition run by the Industrial Society in conjunction with the Abbey National Building Society.

Contestants in the 16-to-21 age group were invited to put forward ideas for setting up and running their own business. Winning entries include such diverse activities as a marine aquarium company, Caribbean catering, garden gnome manufacturing, snooker cue making, printing, cake making and painting and decorating.

Mr Lambert is a graduate of the St John's Case College where he studied gold and silversmithing.

Twice a winner of the Goldsmiths' Crafts Council's Craftsmanship of the Year Award, he was made redundant from his apprenticeship when his employer went out of business. "I tried to get another silversmithing job but had no luck," he says. A friend commissioned him to make a model of an aircraft in silver and things mushroomed from there.

He is now working on two silver chess sets for clients. "I can do anything but I like making models. I have enough work to last until the end of November and I am hoping to get some more lined up after that. I want to specialize in trophies and that type of thing."

"I was unemployed for about seven months and tried to get a place on the Government Enterprise Allowance scheme, but unless you have £1,000 to invest in the business they don't want to know. How many people who have been unemployed for 13 weeks will have £1,000?"

He has now been offered a bench in Hutton Garden and believes he is well on the way to running a profitable business.

Lorna Bourke

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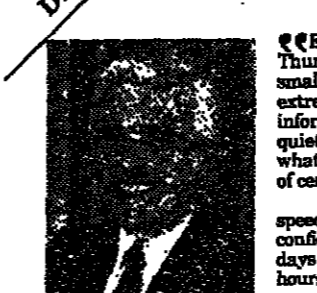
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Table listing advertising rates for various publications: The Times, The Sunday Times, and others.

Table titled 'Base Lending Rates' listing interest rates for various banks: ABN Bank, Barclays, BCCI, Citibank Savings, etc.

How to turn £500 into £2,150 on the Stock Market in just six weeks



Early every Thursday morning a small number of extremely well informed investors quietly snap up whatever is available of certain shares. They act with speed and total confidence. Within days (sometimes even hours) they have reaped huge profits.

For example, on 22nd December 1982 against the advice of many experienced brokers, these investors bought Samson Exploration at 12p.

On 2nd February 1983 they sold their shares for 52p each. If you had invested £500 at the same time you would have made £2,150 profit in just 42 days.

This is by no means the best example of their investment successes. The secret of investment success is to have reliable advice and the ability to move fast, before the word gets round and prices rocket.

Every Wednesday evening Stock Market Confidential is posted first class to all our subscribers. In it we make comprehensive buying and selling recommendations, offer sound investment analysis and, most important of all, suggest three 'hot tips' for the week.

If you haven't acted on our 'hot tips' by Thursday lunchtime you've missed the boat - other SMC subscribers will have already pushed prices up.

What to buy and when to sell. If you look at the SMC Growth Record for 82/3 shows you'll notice that we aren't shy to include all our losses. This is because what few there have been hardly affect our staggering overall success rate of 80%.

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FAMILY MONEY

Saving Getting a higher return

Regular savers seeking a safe home for their money plus a high rate of return should be looking at building society subscription shares...

Many of the smaller building societies traditionally offer an extra half per cent or more to investors above the recommended Building Societies Association ordinary share rate...

Many of the "extra interest" accounts on offer from building societies require a substantial lump sum investment from the outset...

There can, however, be snag, and you should look carefully at the details of the regular savings plans before you commit yourself.

yourself to that level for the rest of the term; and the term is three years with no withdrawals allowed...

Tellingly, the Leamington Spa Building Society took its subscription share accounts off the market this week...

RETURN ON A £10 A-MONTH INVESTMENT IN A BUILDING SOCIETY/INSURANCE SCHEME

Table with 3 columns: Meriden Building Society, Cash Value, Net Yield per year. Rows include 4 years and 1 day, 7 years, and 10 years for various ages.

Retirement

Changes in pension rules make it easier for women to claim benefits

Nothing is more annoying for a married woman than to reach retiring age only to be told that she cannot get a pension until her husband retires too.

Yet that is what many thousands of women, who may have paid little or nothing by way of national insurance over the years, are being told.

As men retire at 65 and women at 60, there is not a problem for a woman five or more years younger than her husband. She gets a pension when she reaches 60.

stance, who paid just 10 years of contributions would get a pension of around 25 to 30 per cent of the full amount - £8 to £10 a week compared with the full £32.50.

It is not, therefore, too difficult for a woman who works for a number of years before her marriage then returns to work five years, say, before reaching 60, to accumulate the necessary national insurance payments for a pension of her own.

In addition, a woman who returns to work now starts to

A woman keeps any earnings-related pension of her own

build up some entitlement to an extra earnings-related pension, provided she is not in an approved company pension scheme.

What, then, will she get on retirement at 60? The main advantage is that she will not have to wait until her husband retires at 60 in order to get a pension. Because she has paid her own contributions she will get her own pension, even if this is a lower amount.

But the bonus is that when her husband eventually does

retire, she will be able to exchange her own pension for one from her husband's contribution payments, if it will be higher than her own pension.

This all means that a woman who is the same age as her husband, can have five years' pension of her own. A woman who is older than her husband will, of course, have more. This can be worth quite a lot of money.

When a woman does swap her own pension for one from her husband, she keeps any earnings-related and graduated pension of her own, and adds this on top.

So, if you are within a few years of retirement and contemplating going back to work, it is worth bearing in mind that a couple of years in a job could make the difference between getting a pension and not getting one.

It may be worth checking how you stand as regards contributions with the DHSS. If you have worked in the past, you might be surprised to find that you are already in line for at least the minimum 25 per cent pension rate.

Ian McDonald

Insurance funds

Investing on the rebound for better interest

To turn an investment of £10,000 a year into £153,000 in 11 years, you may think, would require an incredible luck or considerable investment skills.

Not so, if you use one of the oldest investment schemes in the book - investing each year in the worst performing unit trust or fund.

Past performance is no guarantee of the future, but the scheme does seem to work. Investment adviser, Mr Charles Fry recommends that clients use insurance company funds rather than unit trusts, as switching between the funds is cheaper than buying and selling unit trusts, and there is no danger of incurring a capital gains tax liability.

Utilized insurance company funds are also more tax efficient for those who pay higher rate tax, but want to take income from the investment. With the regular investment scheme you also get tax relief on the premiums, which again enhances the investment performance.

The figures in the tables are based on a one-off £10,000 investment in M & G flexible investment bonds which offer 16 funds to choose from and have a reliable track record on performance.

Mr Fry introduces an element of sophistication into the scheme by actively choosing the next year's fund rather than going straight into the worst performing fund has produced steady and sometimes spectacular gains.

M & G FLEXIBLE INVESTMENT BONDS: WORST PERFORMANCE

An investment of £10,000 made on January 1, 1972, and switched on each ensuing January 1, into the worst performing M & G Bond Fund of the previous year.

Table with 5 columns: Year, Fund, Amount invested at beginning of year, Value at end of year, Less switching fee, Amount to be invested. Rows include 1972 Equity, 1973 Property, 1974 American, etc.

M & G FLEXIBLE INVESTMENT BONDS: BEST PERFORMANCE

An investment of £10,000 made on January 1, 1972, and switched on each ensuing January 1, into the best performing M & G Bond Fund of the previous year.

Table with 5 columns: Year, Fund, Amount invested at beginning of year, Value at end of year, Less switching fee, Amount to be invested. Rows include 1972 Recovery, 1973 Japan, 1974 Property, etc.

He also believes that investors should have the scheme managed. Otherwise they are liable to lose their nerve.

AVERAGE Return:

66.62% in one year.

In our August 1982 Investment Action Report, we drew our clients' attention to just FOUR recommended unit trusts. According to Planned Savings Statistics (August 1983), these were the performances of our recommended trusts:

Table with 2 columns: Trust Name, Value of a £5,000 investment. Rows include GT Technology & Growth, ProEfic North American, Legal & General Gilt Trust, Gartmore UK Smaller Companies Recovery.

It's worth noting that these trusts were ALL available at an exclusive 1% discount.

To judge how good these figures are, look at the returns in a building society over the same period. A £5,000 investment would have produced £353 for a basic rate taxpayer and even less for a higher rate taxpayer.

If you'd like to know what the Investment Action Report is recommending now, send for your free copy without delay.

N.B. It should be remembered that unit values can fall as well as rise. While past performance cannot necessarily be taken as a guide to the future, the skills of the management groups involved are clearly well above average.

To: Julian Gibbs Associates, 73RA 20A, A member of the Reed Stenhouse Group. FREEPOST, London SW1W 0BR (no stamp required). Tel: London: 01-730 8221. Aberdeen: 0224-640460. Bristol: 0272-294531. Edinburgh: 031-225 9528. Glasgow: 041-248 5070. Leeds: 0532-506116. Manchester: 061-431 7191.

Please contact me with a free copy of your latest Investment Action Report.

Form with fields for Name, Address, Country, Tel. No., Present Income, Date of Birth, Tax Rate, Lump sum available for investment, Amount available for regular savings, and a checkbox for 'Please tick box if you are already a client of Julian Gibbs Associates'.

JULIAN GIBBS ASSOCIATES

AUGUST 1983

Building Society News

Are you married and over 50 years old?

Now there is a Building Society savings account exclusively for you, which can improve the return on your investment by as much as 36%

In the last two years interest rates have fallen steadily and this has been bad news for investors. Despite the small increase from July 1st, your interest would still have to leap by a further 34% to recover to levels paid on normal accounts just 17 months ago.

The new Leicestercard 50 Plus Account from the Leicester Building Society offers a

highly attractive way of reversing this trend. Compare the rates with the return from your present building society savings account. Then answer this question - why settle for lower interest rates when a switch to the Leicester will give your savings an immediate boost?

NET 10% INCOME OPTION

For the first 4 years you have the option to take an income of 10% p.a. free of tax from your building society account* (if you are a basic rate taxpayer). This is equivalent to 14.28% gross.

*On the balance of your investment, after £100 has been used to open a Leicester Share Account (currently yielding 7.25%). The high rates shown above are achieved by making full use of income tax concessions currently available to individuals and to building societies. Rates will vary as the general level of interest rates rises or falls, or if tax rates change. If interest rates fall, it will still be possible to take a 10% income per annum, but they will obviously be a reduction in your invested capital. The account is not designed for short-term savers - full details of investment terms will be sent to you.

HOW TO APPLY

You may open an Account for as little as £2,000 or as much as £10,000; the choice is yours. But remember, the Leicestercard 50 Plus Account is offered to married couples only on a limited subscription series. You should send for details now.

Simply post the coupon below, or call in at your local Leicester Building Society branch for full details of how you can automatically boost your current building society returns without risk.



PLEASE The Leicestercard 50 Plus Account is available to all married savers over 50, not just existing Leicester Building Society customers.

I am married and over 50. PLEASE RUSH ME DETAILS OF HOW I CAN BOOST MY CURRENT BUILDING SOCIETY RETURNS WITHOUT RISK.

EITHER I would like to take an annual income from my investment OR I would prefer my interest to accumulate in my account (special capital growth terms available)

To: Leicestercard 50 Plus Account Division M & P Financial Services Limited, Freeport, BN1 1ZY Tel: Brighton (0273) 725392/3 or London (01) 935 0188/7917

NAME ADDRESS TEL. NO.

NO STAMP IS REQUIRED

Investment Conclusion: Whether you want to invest regularly from income or invest a lump sum, it is difficult to find any other scheme that can offer both the same security as a Building Society Linked Plan and the same return. WHAT INVESTMENT January 1983

Leicester Building Society in conjunction with M & P Financial Services Limited, a member company of Yorkshire and Lancashire Investment Trust plc.

Hill Samuel International Currency Fund Limited



A Company registered with limited liability in Jersey under the Companies (Jersey) Law, 1961 to 1968. The Shares of each class of the Company have been admitted to The Stock Exchange Official List. This advertisement is issued by Hill Samuel & Co. Limited.

CURRENCY FUNDS

Investors may subscribe for Shares designated in the following currencies: Deutschemarks, Sterling, Swiss Francs, US Dollars. Shares in the Currency Funds are designed for investors who wish to keep their cash reserves matched in a particular currency. They may be converted from one Fund to another on any Dealing Day without the Company making any charge.

Investments for each Currency Fund will at all times be matched in the relevant currency and held mainly in the form of bank deposits.

Objectives: To provide investors with: * The advantage of dealing in large amounts * Security of capital * Ready availability of funds * Professional management.

Distributions: All interest will be accumulated and reinvested; no dividends will therefore be paid. The Managers are part of Hill Samuel Investment Management International, the overseas investment arm of the Hill Samuel Group, which is a major financial institution based in London with assets under advice and management of over £4,500,000,000.

MANAGED FUND

Managed Fund Shares will enable investors to achieve high returns through an investment in major currencies under professional management. Managed Fund Shares are paid up in Sterling but will be invested in a selection of major currencies. The Managers will aim to maximise growth by selecting those currencies which will provide the highest returns, taking into account both exchange and interest rates. Although the Managers will diversify their holdings to minimise the risk of adverse movements in exchange rates, it must be recognised that the price of Shares may go down as well as up.

HILL SAMUEL FUND MANAGERS (JERSEY) LTD 7 Bond Street, St. Helier, Jersey Channel Islands. Telephone: 05 34 76029. Telex: 4192269.

Please send me a copy of the Prospectus of the Hill Samuel International Currency Fund Limited. Times 20/8/83

NAME ADDRESS TEL. NO.

For copies of the Prospectus (on the terms of which alone applications may be considered) and the Application Form please see the coupon.

FAMILY MONEY

School fees

Save the agony by saving with a flexible scheme

With only days left before the start of a new term, the annual agonizing over school fees and how to pay them begins.

A lot of mystery surrounds school-fee schemes but anyone seeking advice should remember that they all basically utilize existing insurance plans, the proceeds of which can be used for a number of purposes - not just the provision of school fees.

The parents' objective should be to build up a fund which can be used for several purposes. You may find that you change your mind about independent education, so it is important to make sure that any scheme has sufficient flexibility. The priority should be the maximum capital appreciation of savings.



The initial years of a savings programme should cover current-day school fees from the age of 11 to 18 years for a child, allowing for inflation at 7 per cent (compound) from today.

and compare their recommendations. In recent years people have become more aware of the tax benefits available if a grandparent, friend or relative covens money to a child to help with school fees.

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Current account - no interest paid. Deposit accounts - Midlands, Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 6 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. Lloyds extra interest 9 1/2 per cent. Monthly income account Natwest 9 1/2 per cent. Fixed term deposits £2,500-£25,000 - 1, 3 and 6 months 8 1/2 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

Table with columns: Fund Name, Rate, Telephone. Lists various investment funds like Asian Home, monthly income, Bank of Scotland, etc.

Local authority yearling bonds 12-month fixed rate investments, interest 10 1/2 per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Trust fees at half-price. Mention trusts and the usual reaction from any beneficiary is that the administration charges are Accountants Dearden Farrow have done some interesting research which reveals that their charges (and probably the charges of most other accountants) are less than half those charged by either the banks or the public trustee.

Table titled 'TRUST CHARGES' comparing charges for smaller, small/medium, and large trusts across different providers like Bank, Public Trustee, and Dearden Farrow.

receive a 24 per cent supplement between October 1982 and October 1983 a 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 Retirement Issue certificates purchased in August 1975, £173.78 including 4 per cent bonus.

Guaranteed Income Bonds Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity schemes 2 & 3 years Canterbury Life 8.5 per cent min investment £1,000, 4 years General portfolio 9-11.5 per cent, min investment £1,000, 5 years Sentry 10 per cent, min investment £1,500.

Building societies Ordinary share accounts - 7.25 per cent. Term shares - 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 per cent and 1 per cent over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes - 1.25 per cent over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

years, 11 1/2 per cent. Further information seven days notice is required for matron from St. 01 Waterloo Road, London SE1 01-928 7822.

Finance houses deposits (FHD) Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deductions of tax. Five-Fifty scheme: 6 months, 7 1/2 per cent; 1 year, 10 per cent; 2 years, 10 1/2 per cent.

Advertisement for 'The Leeds Permanent Building Society' featuring a large '13.39% NET PA. 19.13% GROSS' and text about Homeowners Friendly Society plans.

Large financial table with multiple columns listing various investment products, their current and bid offers, and other financial data.

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom center of the page.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

Britoil in the shadow of BP

The possible sale of Britoil shares by the Government has been somewhat eclipsed by the prospect of a further tranche of state-owned shares in BP coming on the market.

Sales of BP shares are an easy way for the Government to finance its spending programme, or arguably a sensible extension of its privatization policy. The sale of Britoil shares would be less easy.

The Government will have to convince the investor that the present price of about 250p is likely to continue its slow climb from the placing of 215p.

The Government will also have to drop the idea of floating off a new company comprising the North Sea assets of British Gas if Britoil shares are ever to have a chance in the market.

Britoil will publish its interim figures in the coming week and it is likely that the dividend will be in line with brokers' forecasts of 4p. The company's forecast of a 9.9p net dividend for 1983 should also be met.

BP will produce interim figures on September 1. The profits should point to a full-year result of the £700m earned in 1983. After the Shell results it is likely that this forecast may well be low, and although an interim dividend of 6.25p may be paid as forecast, the final dividend could be much higher.

Another factor is the different nature of Britoil's assets. Allowing for development already taking place in the North Sea, Britoil's resources in that area will begin to decline in 1985. But they will be offset by increased gas production and by the prospect of condensate fields in Dubai making considerable contributions to profits towards the end of the decade.

In addition, substantial investments by Britoil have been made in Ireland, Indonesia, France and in onshore production facilities and in potential oil-bearing exploration areas in the US.

The capital investment involved in these new areas will affect future dividends paid by Britoil, although changes in North Sea taxation could counteract this. The prospects for longer term growth are real, if not spectacular.

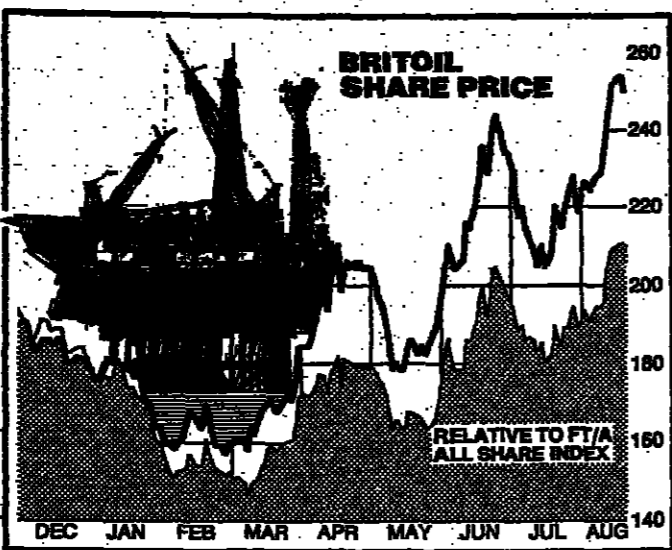
Having arrived at this position, Britoil could therefore be justified in feeling aggrieved law went into effect. It gave the highly regulated banks permission, among other things, to set their own working hours.

In theory, any one bank could have decided by itself to take action, but none was willing to do so, perhaps because it might have put itself at a competitive disadvantage.

Instead, the federation coordinated discussions, study and finally preparation for the two-day weekend.

The main problem was the Government's Postal Savings Bureau, whose savings and demand accounts at post offices command about 30 per cent of all personal savings.

Commercial banks decided they could not close Saturdays if the post office bank remained open. The result was an all or none - view.



Losses were £1.78m, against £715,000 last time, on a turnover down slightly to £63.8m. Interest charges were up from £1.74m to £2m. A transfer from capital reserves of £1.56m produced trading profit of £236,000 against £1.02m, and a loss per share of 6.8p. The implication is that borrowings must have risen since interest rates have fallen.

The dividend was held at a nominal 0.1p, and shareholders should not be optimistic about what this year has in store. It has been an unhappy year for the company, although the precise reasons are obscure because Mining Supplies demonstrates a reluctance, surprising in a publicly-quoted company, to divulge details.

The mining supplies division had been said, at the half-year stage, to have been in profit, but the Laurence Scott electric the turnover shows an improvement, with engineering holding its losses. But if Mr Craigie has done his sums correctly the second half performance should be considerably better than the first - perhaps even reaching breakeven point. This should make Sir Peter Parker's job easier when he returns from British Rail as Rockware's chairman on September 14. But there is no chance of a dividend payment yet.

Rockware is convinced that it has rationalized capacity ahead of the pack. But so far, price increases have not just failed to stick but have instead been hit by heavy discounting. The upturn stems from greater manufacturing efficiency, partly the result of redundancies, and an orderbook fattened by stronger demand for high quality specialist rotating machines and defence equipment.

To be fair, a good part of Laurence Scott's problems was the £1m trading loss caused by a "dramatic" fall-off in demand in low tension control gear. But the mining supplies division results, were depressed by the recession in cost-mining. On showing, however, the mining supplies division holds the key to recovery.

There is a chance that gold mines will come back into favour. A stagnant gold price and the feeling that the shortage of scrap in South Africa had pushed quality issues up to rather price levels are giving way to the possibility that bullion will gain in the last quarter of the year, and that a medium-term re-rating of the mines could be appropriate. The market may now be prepared to accept yields of half the 20 per cent prevailing only a few years ago.

Mining Supplies, the dark-horse of the sector that has produced mixed results for the past financial year, yesterday announced pretax losses two-and-a-half times higher for the 12 months to the end of April.

Shares and the 16 shareholders will scale their entitlement down pro rata. Rockware and its advisers are also adamant that the big shareholders receive no privileged information before agreeing to take their shares. Meanwhile, the shares have dropped to a new low of 25p, their nominal value.

It is still too early to be sure that Rockware is back on even keel. On the latest figures only the turnover shows an improvement, with engineering holding its losses. But if Mr Craigie has done his sums correctly the second half performance should be considerably better than the first - perhaps even reaching breakeven point. This should make Sir Peter Parker's job easier when he returns from British Rail as Rockware's chairman on September 14. But there is no chance of a dividend payment yet.

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COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Table with 2 columns: Company Name and Financial Data. Includes W. G. Allen and Sons (Tipson), Leisuretime International, Charles Baynes, Benford Concrete Machinery, Wholesale Fittings, Dome Canada, and Saxon Oil.

Japan's banks close on Saturday at last

Tokyo (AP-Dow Jones) - Japan's banks have taken more than a decade to agree to close one Saturday a month.

They shut their doors last Saturday, and henceforth will close on the second Saturday of every month.

Through this once-a-month elimination of the traditional half-day of work on Saturdays, banks became the latest industry to join a gradual shift to a two-day weekend.

But the delays illustrate the ties among government, industry and industry associations in Japan, and the way of consensus.

Although the Federation of Bankers' Associations of Japan began studying the possibility of Saturday holidays in 1972, action had to wait until April 1982, when a revised banking

law went into effect. It gave the highly regulated banks permission, among other things, to set their own working hours.

In theory, any one bank could have decided by itself to take action, but none was willing to do so, perhaps because it might have put itself at a competitive disadvantage.

Instead, the federation coordinated discussions, study and finally preparation for the two-day weekend.

The main problem was the Government's Postal Savings Bureau, whose savings and demand accounts at post offices command about 30 per cent of all personal savings.

Commercial banks decided they could not close Saturdays if the post office bank remained open. The result was an all or none - view.

EQUESTRIANISM



Miss Holgate: thrilled.

Swiss go first after the dressage

From Jenny MacArthur, Frauenfeld, Switzerland. Hansuli Schmutz from Switzerland, the defending individual gold medal winner, rode a superb test in yesterday's dressage phase of the European three-day event championship riding Oran and much to the delight of the enthusiastic home crowd, have gone into the lead.

Schmutz's score of 29.80 was a tremendous boost to the Swiss team score and they are now lying in first place, followed by the Germans. The British, who are equal third with the Poles, will have to do well in today's speed and endurance phase if they are to retain their European title.

Dressage has never been Lucinda Green's favourite discipline and she and the plucky Australian-direct Regal Realm, owned by S. R. Direct Rail, give the impression, when riding their test, that they cannot wait for it to be over. It is in today's cross country that they show their true colours. Yesterday, however, Regal Realm put his best foot forward and his excellent and obedient test earned him a respectable 50.60 points.

Their mark revealed an extraordinary inconsistency in the judging. The Swiss judge, Anton Schueber, gave them 134 marks which was 18 less than the Italian judge, Fabio Mangili, and 47 less than the Polish judge, Andre Orlosz, who appeared to be over-generous.

Virginia Holgate, the last of the British to perform their dressage, rode a good, active test on British National Insurance's Night Cap, and her mark of 40.40 seemed harsh. Miss Holgate used to have a problem preventing Night Cap from becoming the centre of attention in the dressage, and yesterday the problem looked like returning. "He was lit up by the large crowd and the noise," Miss Holgate said afterwards. "But as we went into the arena he seemed to be saying 'I'm quite happy to do what you want me to do providing you don't mind me being fresh.'"

Miss Holgate is thrilled to have the chance to show what Night Cap can do in a top international three-day event. Her last season's dressage, rode, a good, active test on British National Insurance's Night Cap, and her mark of 40.40 seemed harsh. Miss Holgate used to have a problem preventing Night Cap from becoming the centre of attention in the dressage, and yesterday the problem looked like returning.

Two fences which are causing some concern to the riders are the coffin, which has a big, starting ditch between the two fences and the Banker. The latter, near the end of the course, has to be banked. The worry is that some horses, if going fast, may try and fly it, which would be disastrous because of the steep drop the other side.

The calendar collision with the world championships could turn out to the advantage of the European Cup from the point of view of high-class performances. At least one competitor per event in Helsinki who had attained the B standard and Parsons easily qualified with his best jump this season, a British record at 2.25 metres. The experience that the 19-year-old could have gained from Helsinki is immeasurable and would have stood him in good stead for today's competition against men who have come directly from their own countries.

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It would be unrealistic to expect anything better than third place for Britain's men and fourth for the women on the evidence of statistics; but the home crowd, swelled by the impact and success of last week's event, could be a telling factor.

At last time the cup was held in Britain (the only country to stage it twice) was in 1973 in Edinburgh, where the men finished fourth and the women fifth, better than they had ever done, and started the recent impressive record in the competition which culminated in overall third last time.

Rivals for the last decade of Britain's men and women have been the West Germans and the national struggle will find no slumber for the men's 800 metres and steeplechase.

ATHLETICS

Third and fourth would spell success for Britain

By Pat Barber

One Bennett out, another in

Todd Bennett will run in the 4 x 400 metres relay for Britain after all. He had withdrawn after being overlooked for the individual 400 metres but when Ashley Bennett dropped out, Steve Harris is doubtful for the 5,000 metres tomorrow. He has been having hip trouble, which requires twice daily treatment. Eamonn Martin has been told to stand by as a replacement.

Willi Wulbeck's victory in Helsinki was his first big success since winning the European Cup 800 metres in 1977 after a well publicized elbow into Sebastian Coe's ribs. Wulbeck has won his national 800 metres title an astonishing 10 times in succession but even his selectors had so little confidence in his potential in Helsinki that they had already informed that Hans-Peter Ferner would be doing the 800.

Wulbeck was quickly substituted but even he will find it hard to live with the courage of the front-running Peter Elliott for two weeks in a row. Patriz Ilg is a different matter. He was always a good bet for steeplechase gold in Helsinki and even if Henry Elliott courageous front running that is hard to live with.

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Steve Cram's victory in the 1,500 metres, the blue ribbon event of the world championships in Helsinki, has made him the big man on the athletics scene. But his contribution to the British team's effort in this weekend's European Cup at Crystal Palace will be strictly on a par with that of his colleagues.

Cram is expected to win and anything less than the eight points that brings will be a blow to Britain's hopes of repeating the success of third place behind the unapproachable Soviets and East Germans in Zagreb in 1981.

That was Britain's best-ever performance in the competition which began on a biennial basis in 1965; and it was a success based as much upon the unexpected victory of Mark Hunt in the hurdles and the third place of Keith Stock in the pole vault as on Allan Wells, Sebastian Coe and Dave Moorcroft's wins in the 100, 800 and 5,000 metres.

Similarly, success at Crystal Palace will depend on the number of points that Geoff Parsons, for example, can steal from men who are better on paper than he is in the high jump.

Parsons's omission from the world championships team was one of the British selectors' big mistakes. While they were deliberating over who should be the third runner in this and that event, Parsons, who is by far the best high jumper in Britain, was denied a team place because he was one centimetre short of a qualifying standard.

Every country was permitted at least one competitor per event in Helsinki who had attained the B standard and Parsons easily qualified with his best jump this season, a British record at 2.25 metres. The experience that the 19-year-old could have gained from Helsinki is immeasurable and would have stood him in good stead for today's competition against men who have come directly from their own countries.

The calendar collision with the world championships could turn out to the advantage of the European Cup from the point of view of high-class performances. At least one competitor per event in Helsinki who had attained the B standard and Parsons easily qualified with his best jump this season, a British record at 2.25 metres. The experience that the 19-year-old could have gained from Helsinki is immeasurable and would have stood him in good stead for today's competition against men who have come directly from their own countries.

It would be unrealistic to expect anything better than third place for Britain's men and fourth for the women on the evidence of statistics; but the home crowd, swelled by the impact and success of last week's event, could be a telling factor.

At last time the cup was held in Britain (the only country to stage it twice) was in 1973 in Edinburgh, where the men finished fourth and the women fifth, better than they had ever done, and started the recent impressive record in the competition which culminated in overall third last time.

Rivals for the last decade of Britain's men and women have been the West Germans and the national struggle will find no slumber for the men's 800 metres and steeplechase.

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COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, COPPER, ZINC, LEAD, ALUMINIUM, and various oil products.

WALL STREET

Table of stock market prices including NYSE, AMEX, and various international indices.

RUGBY LEAGUE

The entertainment revolution goes into action

The curtain goes up this weekend on what may be the most exciting and revolutionary season since the breakaway years at the turn of the century. A host of new international laws come into force, designed to speed up the game, curb excessive attack, fluidity and movement.

In addition, the performances of referees will be closely monitored by assessors, the play-the-ball rule will be rigidly enforced, and it is hoped that the ban on movement of players between Australasia and Great Britain will be ended. Further expansion of the game comes with the launching of Kent Invicta at Maidstone tomorrow.

The most important of the new laws make a try worth four points instead of three; give the field and loose head to the non-offending side at a scrum; force the release of the ball to the opposition if a player is held on the sixth tackle, and strengthen the offside law by making players remain outside until the ball is passed clear of the play-the-ball movement.

Rugby League officials are bubbling with enthusiasm in anticipation of the new season. David Oxley, the secretary general, says: "The game can now be played at a tremendous pace, and will be more attractive to spectators."

David Howarth, the public relations officer, comments: "The new laws were brought in as part of a drive to reward attacking play and increase spectator enjoyment."

In common with other spectator sports, Rugby League suffered a small decline in attendances last season after nearly a decade of continuing growth. It is firmly agreed that the new, speeded-up game will bring back the crowds.

WEEKEND FIXTURES

Table of weekend fixtures for various rugby league divisions including FA Charity Shield, Scottish premier division, Scottish first division, and various international matches.

CRICKET: SLOW MAN FOR YORKSHIRE, NEW QUICK MAN FOR ENGLAND

Rebuke leaves Boycott angry

By Richard Streeton

Yorkshire announced in an official statement yesterday that they had reprimanded Geoffrey Boycott for slow scoring against Gloucestershire at Cheltenham last Saturday...

England recall Randall and send for Thomas

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

Their collective conscience pricked perhaps by having left him out of the third Test match against New Zealand, the England selectors have brought back Derek Randall for the fourth starting at Trent Bridge...

Excuse to fall back on. Of the three off spinners to be taken to Australia last winter, Marks has had one Test this summer, and Miller and Hemmings none...

England 12

Table with 3 columns: Name, Age, Tests. Lists players like G.D. Williams, I.R. Bell, M.G. Clark, etc.

New Zealand bring firepower to bear

By Peter Marson

CHELMSFORD: The New Zealanders beat Essex by 48 runs. The New Zealanders scored an encouraging victory, their fourth in succession against a county side...

Ireland miss the boat

By Alan Gibson

I used to know Irish cricket quite well. That was in the days of O'Riordan, of Old Belton, a notable all-rounder, and Callaghan, of St. Mary's, an excellent wicket-keeper...

Waitses enjoyed the good fortune of being no fewer than eight times putts, including one of eight yards, and another of twice that distance...

Ferris on stand-by

By Gordon Allen

George Ferris, Leicestershire's 18-year-old fast bowler, has been placed on stand-by for West Indies tour of India. The Antiguan who is in his first season of county cricket...

England toil for a lead

By John Hemmings, Golf Correspondent

It was emphatically England's day in the second young players' international matches at Scarborough yesterday, when they battled all day against Australia to score 274 for nine in their second innings...

Haynie sticks her neck out. Shaker Heights, Ohio (Reuters) - Sandra Haynie shared the lead with a two-under-par 70 yesterday after the first round of the 200,000 dollar women's world golf championship...

Bowls

By Gordon Allen

John Bell, aged 35, of Wigton, Cumbria, won the singles title in the English national championships, sponsored by the Gateway Building Society, at Beach House Park, Worthing, yesterday...

Call-up for Collins

By Gordon Allen

London Welsh will be joined by the highly rated Wales B squad second John Collins, for their trip to Ireland on September 3...

Grace Road today. Addition played in the John Player League match against Warwickshire last weekend. ATHLETICS: Karlo Muzina, the Finnish distance runner, was blood doped when he won two medals at the 1980 Moscow Olympics...



Conducted tour: Ballesteros courier to Jacklin. (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Waitses leans heavily on a club lent by a club member

By Mitchell Platt

Brian Waitses has spent so much time on the circuit this season that the standing job at Hollinwell, where he is the club professional, is left to him by the club professional...

Waitses enjoyed the good fortune of being no fewer than eight times putts, including one of eight yards, and another of twice that distance...

Victory at last for the British

By Barry Fickthall

The Peter de Savary backed Victory '83 scored a significant win over Alan Bond's Australia II off Newport, Rhode Island on Thursday in the sixth round of the semi-final challenge series of the America's Cup and now stands a good chance of winning the trophy...

Both Victory and Australia have to win only one more race in a piece in the remaining three rounds of the series to ensure a place in the semi-finals...

Parkin mutes youth's anguish

By John Hemmings, Golf Correspondent

If first reactions are to be trusted, the ranks of young golfers in this country are not as depleted as they are reported to be. Certainly, there were a number who emerged from the recorder's at the British youths' championship at Stanninglee yesterday...

Afterwards, Parkin was reprimanded for slow play by Michael Bonnalack, the secretary-elect of the Royal and Ancient. "He took two minutes over his two putts on the eighteenth", Bonnalack said...

Pinnell realises potential

By John Nicholls

Ian Pinnell and Jeremy Harley ended the National 12 class championship week in the best possible way by winning both the final race and the overall points trophy at Landudno yesterday...

FOR THE RECORD

Table with multiple columns listing various sports records and events, including Tennis, Baseball, Football, Hockey, and Yachting.

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Table with multiple columns listing various sports records and events, including Tennis, Baseball, Football, Hockey, and Yachting.

Saturday

Television and radio programmes Edited by Peter Davale

Sunday

BBC 1
6.25 Open University (until 8.30)
Structural power, 8.05 Who's
Going to Manage?; 7.15
Famously of Social
Community; 7.40 Design for
Science; 8.05 Colin's in
Reverse.

tv-am
8.25 Good Morning Britain: with
Toni Arthur and John Nosske.
Includes news at 7.00 and
8.00, with sport at 7.10; Jeni
Barnett with 'Pick of the Week'
at 8.30; Paul Garwood and
Co at 7.15; Guest spot at 8.07;
Jackie Genova's Aerobics at
8.32.

ITV/LONDON
9.25 LWT Information: what's on in
the area; 9.30 Sesame Street
celebrates its first birthday;
The Muppet Show: Star Fleet
space fun for the youngsters;
10.55 Film: Shambone Alley
(1971) Cartoon version of Don
Quixote's fantasy about a
poor who becomes a
counsellor.

BBC 2
6.25 Open University (until 8.10)
Saturday Science: The
Sevens (1954) Drama, set in
New Zealand early in the last
century, with Jack Hawkins
commenting a friendship with a
Maori chieftain (Ira Te Wata)
that is a stand-in for good
stead when he falls foul of the
law. With Glynn Johns, Noel
Purcell and a young Kenneth
Williams. Director: Ken
Annakin.

CHANNEL 4
2.46 Film: The Village W C Fields
(1937) Highlights from many
of the great comedian's earlier
films, including his first, (Pool
Sharks), The Golf Specialist,
and The Dentist.

BBC 1
6.25 Open University (until 8.55):
8.00 Camerawick Green (r);
8.15 Knock Knock: The
debut of the Pigeon
Fathers (r); 9.30 This is the
Day: prayers from the Convict
of the Holy Name in the
Meyers hills; 10.00 Asia
Magazine music from the Far
East; 10.30 Close-down.

tv-am
7.15 Rub-a-Dub-Tub: for the
younger viewer. Police horses;
cartoons; stories; and a two-
talked cartoon (highlights from
the last issue).

CHANNEL 4
2.35 Film: Fossilising All Others
(1984) Romantic comedy with
John Crawford as the jilted
woman who is subsequently
wooed by Clark Gable. Co-
starring Robert Montgomery.
Directed by W. S. Van Dyke.



Roy and Elaine Bragg in their Manchester home: they can be seen in Gradlines Britain (ITV, 12 noon)

Radio 4
6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 News: Farming Today.
6.35 In Perspective: Religious affairs.
6.45 News: 7.10 Today's Papers.
7.15 On Your Farm.
7.45 In Perspective.
7.55 News: 7.55 Weather.
7.55 News: 7.55 Weather.
8.05 News: 8.10 Today's Papers.
8.15 Sport on 4.

Radio 3
7.55 Weather. 8.00 News.
8.05 Auld Music by Dvorak
(Vladko Valzava), Mozart
Concert aria: O mi amici (di
Praga) de los Angeles.
Butterworth (Banks of Green
Willow), Rostropovich.
Concert aria: O mi amici (di
Praga) de los Angeles.
Butterworth (Banks of Green
Willow), Rostropovich.

TONIGHT'S PROM
7.30 Bernstein: Overture. Can-
didly.
Copland: Quiet City.
Copland: Suite Concerto.
Copland: Piano - Billy the
Kid.
Gershwin: An American in
Paris.
Steven de Groot (piano).
BBC Concert Orchestra.
Simon conducting.
Radio 3, Stereo.

Radio 1
News on the half hour until 12.30 pm.
2.30, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30, 8.30, 10.00
and 11.00.
2.30 News on the half hour until 12.30 pm.
2.30, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30, 8.30, 10.00
and 11.00.

Radio 4
6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 News: Farming Today.
6.35 In Perspective: Religious affairs.
6.45 News: 7.10 Today's Papers.
7.15 On Your Farm.
7.45 In Perspective.
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Praga) de los Angeles.
Butterworth (Banks of Green
Willow), Rostropovich.

Radio 2
News on the half hour until 11.30
p.m., 2.30, 3.30, 5.00, 7.30, 10.00
and 11.00.
2.30 News on the half hour until 11.30
p.m., 2.30, 3.30, 5.00, 7.30, 10.00
and 11.00.

Radio 1
News on the half hour until 11.30
p.m., 2.30, 3.30, 5.00, 7.30, 10.00
and 11.00.
2.30 News on the half hour until 11.30
p.m., 2.30, 3.30, 5.00, 7.30, 10.00
and 11.00.

SAC Starts 2.00pm Usher
Landscape, 2.15 Mennapace.
2.30 In Search of Paradise. 4.10 Making
The Most Of...
4.40 Swedish. 5.35 Film:
Patrol Vail (Greta Garbo). 7.00 Gateway
Chronicle. 7.20 Newsround. 7.40
News: 7.40 News. 8.15-8.30 Film:
Shower Boy. 8.55 Naledi City. 9.45
Lionel Lincoln. 10.40 News. 11.35 Jazz on
Four. 12.00am Close-down.

CHANNEL As London except: 8.25
Space 10.00. 11.00-12.00 Close-down.
1.15 Future's Promise. 6.17-7.00 Film:
Journey to the Centre of the Earth.
12.20am Close-down.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS
HTV WEST As London except: 8.25
Space 10.00. 11.00-12.00 Close-down.
1.15 Future's Promise. 6.17-7.00 Film:
Journey to the Centre of the Earth.
12.20am Close-down.

SCOTTISH As London except: 8.25
Space 10.00. 11.00-12.00 Close-down.
1.15 Future's Promise. 6.17-7.00 Film:
Journey to the Centre of the Earth.
12.20am Close-down.

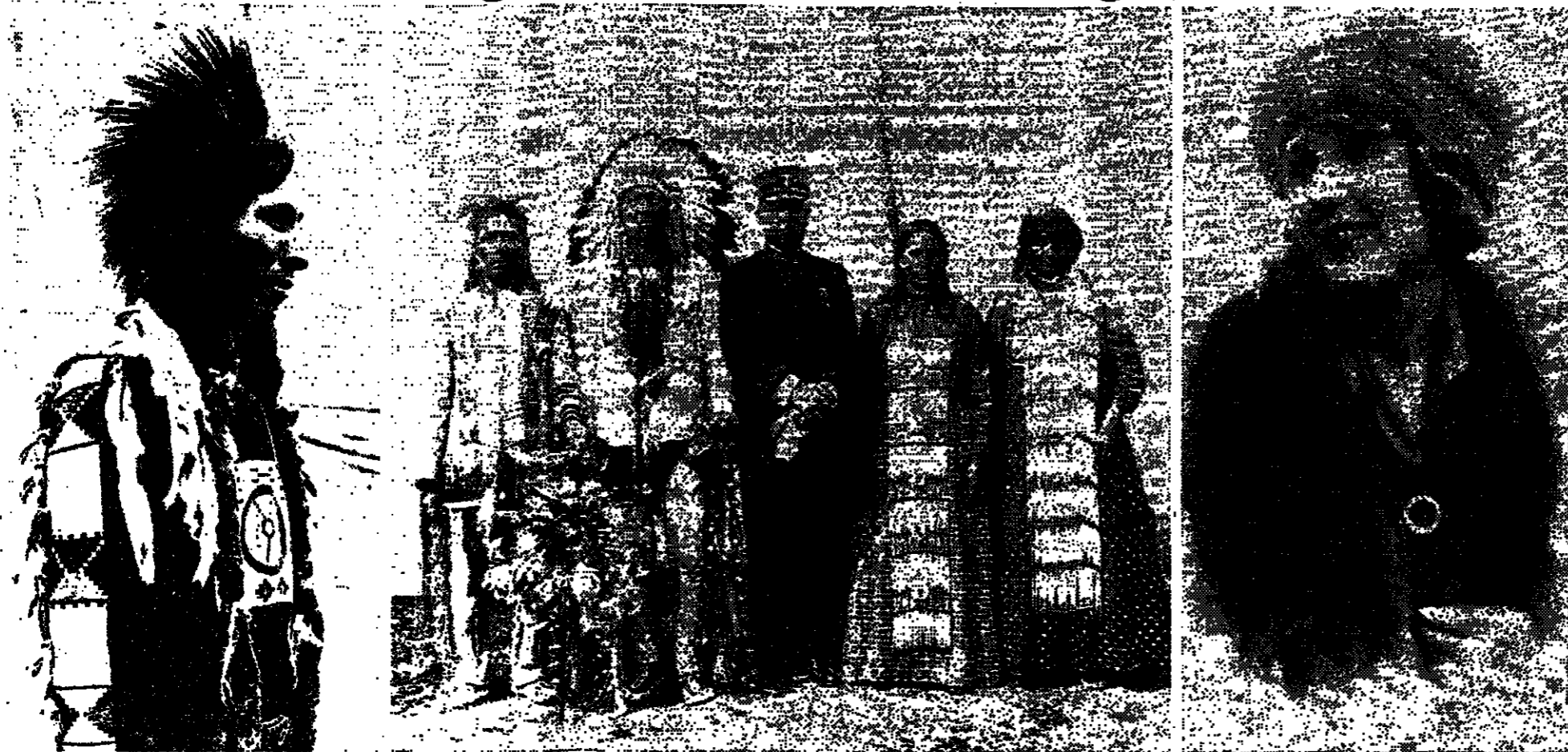
REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS
HTV WEST As London except: 8.25
Space 10.00. 11.00-12.00 Close-down.
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Canada's heritage alive and well and living in Woolwich



A vital part of Canada's heritage, including photographs, maps, music and books missing for many years, has been found in the recesses of the Woolwich Arsenal depository of the British Library...

Among the most evocative of the items are the 5,000 photographs, from portraits of famous Canadians, including Mary Pickford (right), to scenes of ordinary people at work and play and studies of ethnic groups...

including 1,400 insurance plans made by a Canadian called Goad, which provide a record hitherto incomplete because the public archives of Canada hold fewer than 500 of them...

copies were deposited in libraries in Canada and a third in the British Museum library. The Canadian copies were lost in a series of fires.

Letter from Costa Rica

Commander Zero's border war of fear

One morning recently Señor Franklin Valeria Zuniga rose early to walk the 10 miles on the dirt road from his small farm near the Nicaraguan border with Costa Rica...



He added, "I know that I am writing my death sentence, and that from this moment they will be looking for me to assassinate me as they have done with other people."

About half the school's pupils have been withdrawn, and schools in the four hamlets closer to the border are closed completely. "We are afraid to send our children" Señor Valeria said.

They can do what they want to the school building but not to our children", Señor Valeria said. Just who "they" are remains largely unanswered, but what is clear is that this backwater is suffering serious repercussions from the Anti-Sandinista guerrilla activities of Señor Edén Pastora...

Upala teachers have been among the most outspoken critics of Señor Pastora's operation. One headmaster, Señor Tito José somarriva, told government investigators that counter-revolutionary camps existed and that the Government must get rid of them.

Martha Honey

New attempt to lift the Alexander L Keilland

An attempt is to be made within the next four weeks to raise the wreck of the North Sea oil rig, Alexander L Keilland, which sank four years ago with the loss of 123 lives...

Among the most evocative of the items are the 5,000 photographs, from portraits of famous Canadians, including Mary Pickford (right), to scenes of ordinary people at work and play...

was being used as an accommodation platform when heavy seas caused one of its five supporting legs to buckle. The present salvage attempt must be completed by September 15...

reckons that the new attempt is dangerous. A Norwegian company has been awarded the contract to be supervised by the Det Norske Veritas (DNV), the stake certifying agency.

Russian missile

Continued from page 1 defences, which was published earlier this year. Some defence experts fear moves by the two superpowers towards mobile long-range missiles will mark a further escalation of the arms race...

deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles should be postponed (Rodney Cowton writes). The proposal was made in a letter from Mr Yiannis Haralambopoulos, the Greek Foreign Minister, to all the EEC governments.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution of Puzzle No 16.207 and Solution of Puzzle No 16.212. Grids with numbers indicating puzzle solutions.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16.213. A prize of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday.

Winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mrs R. V. Lewis, Whitehouse Farm, Evesham, Warwick; Mrs Susan Ryall, 3 Down Road, Redhill, Weymouth; Mrs G. M. Torverth, Higd Aly, Beaufort Road, Oxtendon, Monmouth, Gwent.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Clues include 'Outstanding battlefield (5)', 'A dangerous situation - if not for snooker players (5,4)', etc.

Today's event

Royal engagement: Princess Margaret visits A Taste of Money 1983 week in Morayshire today, arriving at Walkers of Aberdeen, 11.25. Exhibitions in progress: Francis Danby in Bristol and The Battle is Not Yet Won: work of the Victorian Society...

Gardens open

TOMORROW: Aberdeen: the Beechgrove Garden, BBC, Broadcasting House, Beechgrove Terrace, Aberdeen; BBC television garden, George Burnett and Jim McColl in attendance; 11 to 6, Aberdeen: Tillybronie, Tarrant; herbaceous borders, terraced garden down to loch, shrubs, gardeners' fine trees and vegetable garden; 3 to 5, Ayr: Brackenwood Nurseries, Woodland Walk, Nore Road (Coast Road), Portishead, nr Bristol; 5 acres, woodland garden on steeply-sloping site, many fine shrubs, birch, poplar, bog garden, aviaries, collection of parakeets; 9 to 5, Berkshire: Plant Science Laboratory, Botanical Garden (University of Reading), White Knights Reading, off Reading-Shinfield road into Pepper Lane; 12 acres, wide range of interesting plants, ferns, roses, pelargonium collection; 2 to 6, Derbyshire: Kenilworth Hall, Ecton; 7m SE of Sheffield; 5 acre, Italian-style garden; 10.30 to 6, Essex: Hyde Hall, Rettendon, Chelmsford; trees, shrubs, herbaceous roses, water lilies, greenhouse plants, plants for sale; 2 to 7, Gloucestershire: Ampney Park, on A417, 3m E of Cirencester; large terraced garden, fine trees, herbaceous trout lake, peafowl, ducks; 2 to 6.

Roads

London: Procession through central London, starting Temple Place at 13.15, via Fleet St, Strand, Whitehall, Victoria Embankment, ending Trafalgar Square today. A406 North Circular Road, A404 Harrow Road, Wembley Hill, and A4088 Neasden Lane and Forty Lane closures at junctions 5 to 6 (Birmingham north-east to Birmingham Central), A158 and A52: Heavy traffic for Skegness illuminations. Midlands: M1: One carriageway shared between junctions 15 and 16, Northampton two way traffic on one carriageway, Roadworks, M6: one carriageway at junctions 5 to 6 (Birmingham north-east to Birmingham Central), A158 and A52: Heavy traffic for Skegness illuminations. North: M6: Southbound carriageway closed today and tomorrow; contraflow M62: Northbound slip road on to the M62 westbound track closed; alternative route via the M602 tomorrow. Many roads closed for Bolton market tomorrow. Wales and West: Holiday routes expected to be crowded, reaching a peak midday today, especially on A30 at Oakhampton, Devon; A38 Plymouth. Scotland: Extra traffic in Edinburgh for military tattoo and International Festival. Information supplied by the AA.

Weather

A depression drifted off SW England will drift slowly NE over Wales. 6am to midnight: London, SE, Central S England, East Anglia, Midlands, N Wales: Rain, some heavy with thunderstorms, brighter intervals later; wind E to SE moderate; max temp 24 to 26C (75 to 79F). SE, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Northern Ireland: Dry at first with bright periods, thundery showers later; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 23 to 25C (75 to 77F). NW, Central N England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: Dry at first with bright periods, thundery showers later; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 23 to 25C (75 to 77F). Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: showers, some thundery, dying out, sunny intervals; wind variable, light max 20 to 22C (68 to 72F). NW, Central N England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: Dry at first with bright periods, thundery showers later; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 23 to 25C (75 to 77F). SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E) Wind S light or moderate; sea slightly choppy; S of George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind E moderate, thundery showers, sea slight. Forecast for tomorrow and Monday: Unsettled. Temperatures a little above normal. TOMORROW: Sun rises: 5.53am; Moon sets: 8.14pm; Full Moon August 23. Sun rises: 5.58am; Moon sets: 7.15pm; Full Moon August 23. Sun rises: 5.58am; Moon sets: 8.12pm; Full Moon August 23. Sun rises: 5.58am; Moon sets: 7.49pm; Full Moon August 23.

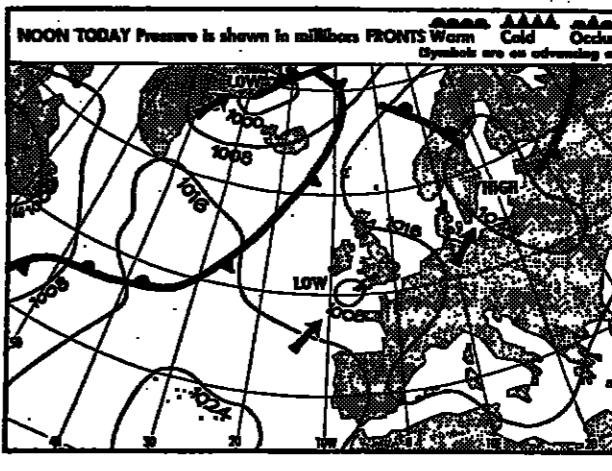


Table with columns for location, temperature, and weather conditions. Includes entries for London, Highest and lowest, and Yesterday's weather.

In the garden

If you wish to save seeds of runner or French beans, one or two plants and leave all the pods to ripen. Do not just rely on the last, usually small pods. The black currants by removing the trunk black currants by removing the trunk black currants by removing the trunk black currants by removing the trunk...

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various countries including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, USA, and Yugoslavia.

Anniversaries

Births: Benjamin Harrison, 23rd president of the USA (1809-93) was born at North Bend, Ohio, 1833. Deaths: William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, London, 1912; Paul Ehrlich, bacteriologist, Nobel laureate, 1906; Bernhard Hill, a German physicist, 1915; Federico Garcia Lorca, dramatist and poet, Granada, Spain, 1936; Leon Trotsky, assassin of Nicholas II (1879-37); William IV (reigned 1830-37); Feat of St Bernard. He was born in 1090 of parents of the Burgundian nobility. In 1112 he began a period of novitiate in the Cistercian Order and three years later was sent to found an abbey at Clairvaux in Champagne. Under his vigorous leadership the Order grew rapidly and acquired considerable influence; Bernard died at Clairvaux on August 20 1153. He was canonized in 1174 and made a Doctor of the Church in 1830.

Lighting-up time

Table showing sunrise and sunset times for various locations including London, Bristol, Cardiff, Newport, Plymouth, Southampton, Exeter, Gloucester, Worcester, Hereford, Birmingham, Coventry, Nottingham, Leicester, Derby, Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Belfast, and Dublin.

High tides

Table showing high tide times for various locations including London Bridge, Aberdeen, Belfast, Cardiff, Newport, Plymouth, Southampton, Exeter, Gloucester, Worcester, Hereford, Birmingham, Coventry, Nottingham, Leicester, Derby, Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Belfast, and Dublin.

Abroad

Table showing weather forecasts for various international locations including Alicante, Alexandria, Algiers, Amman, Ankara, Athens, Baghdad, Bahrain, Bamako, Barcelona, Beirut, Belgrade, Bern, Bogota, Brasilia, Bucharest, Buenos Aires, Cairo, Caracas, Casablanca, Cebu, Chicago, Colombo, Copenhagen, Curitiba, Dakar, Damascus, Doha, Dublin, Geneva, Hanoi, Harbin, Havana, Helsinki, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Jakarta, Jerusalem, Lima, London, Lyons, Madrid, Manila, Mexico City, Moscow, Ottawa, Paris, Rome, Santiago, Sao Paulo, Seoul, Singapore, Stockholm, Taipei, Tel Aviv, Tokyo, Vancouver, Wellington, Zurich.

Collins Dictionaries Times Crossword Championship 1983. For particulars of the National Final on Sunday September 4 see Mr Akenhead's article on page 6.

